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ISSUE NO. 13 • NOVEMBER, 1979

Mom... Guess What...!

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- MGW One Year Later
- Ethnic Gay People
- Fall Film Wrap - Up
- Creative Arts Supplement
- March on Washington

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Published monthly by
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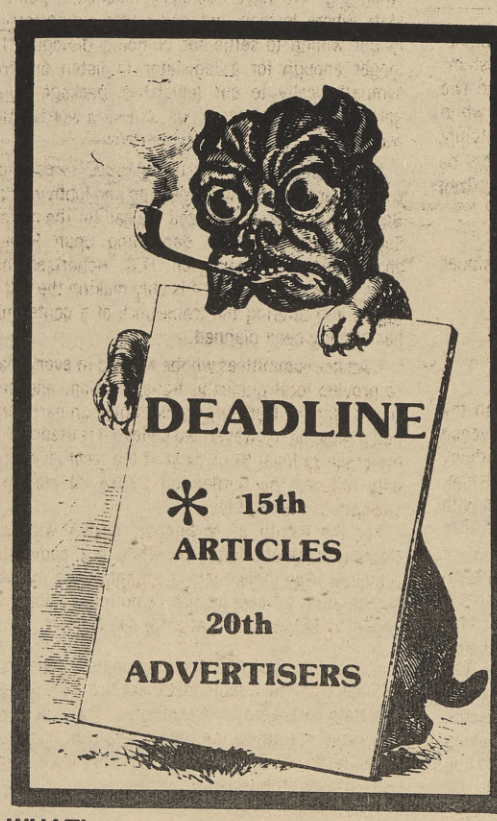


FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Our Apologies

by James K. Graham, Editor

Owing to circumstances largely beyond our control, last month's issue of MOM . . . GUESS WHAT! was quite late in being printed and distributed. We are very sorry for the inconvenience this caused to all of our readers and advertisers.

It is a sad fact of life that, when yours is a wholly volunteer enterprise, as MGW is, you depend on many persons over whom you really have no control. In this case, it was a chain of mishaps beginning with essential copy coming in unavoidably late, continuing through typesetting delays, and culminating in further delays and mixups at the printers.

We are taking steps to insure that this does not happen again — by strickly enforcing deadlines for written copy (it must be turned in by the 15th of the month!), by trying a new typesetter, and by negotiating for better service from our printer. We ask for your forbearance and cooperation.

Supplement Editor Sets High Artistic Standards

Joyce Bright, recently named editor of MGW's creative arts supplement, has issued the following call for contributions of high artistic quality.

"Last month we announced plans for a creative arts supplement that will include short stories, poetry, graphics, and photography. I would like to share with you some of my thoughts about this supplement.

"Physically we are talking about a soft-bound 8½ by 11 book with a glossy cover. We would like national advertisement. In order to pay for the publication, we will charge for it. The supplement will be available through the mail, but we also have plans to distribute it in book stores. The projected date of publication is February 15, 1980.

"Our purpose in publishing this supplement is to create a place for gay artists to exhibit their work. The accent here is on "artists." We would like to see a publication that, representing the best effort of which we are capable, the whole community can be proud of.

"Let me give you an example of the type of professionalism I am talking about. If you, as a prospective contributor, submit a manuscript decorated with remnants of last night's dinner, cigarette burns, words smudged out and your second thoughts illegibly scribbled over, what that tells me is that you don't have too much pride in your work. No editor will rush to study such a work. The initial pride of this supplement must come from **you.**

"Please include a self-addressed, stamped, return envelope. We will not be responsible for unused material unless a return envelope accompanies your submission. Also, please include your telephone number with your submission. Incidentally, pseudonyms are perfectly acceptable.

"In order for this supplement to work we need your support and your participation. I know there is talent in this community. You people with talent — come out of the closet and submit your work by January 1! I pledge my integrity as editor to maintain a high level of artistic quality for this publication. However, only through your participation will we generate the kind of success that can truly be shared by the entire community!

"Please send all submissions to:
Joyce Bright
3012 La Via Way
Sacramento, Ca. 95825
Or call 488-6399. Thank you."

"Please send all submissions to: Joyce Bright, 3012 La Via Way, Sacramento, Ca. 95825, or call 488-6399. Thank you."

David C. Weinerth Resigns

David C. Weinerth, associate publisher of MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .!, has resigned. David, who is deeply involved in the gay community here and in San Francisco, feels the need to spend more of his time in specific commitments to those activities. In addition to all his activities, David works full time and, like all of us, needs some time for himself. His resignation is the paper's loss.

David was instrumental in the founding of MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .! Through his engagement in the gay community, he noticed that people were saying that they wanted a gay newspaper. Out of that need MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .! came into being.

David clearly articulated the purpose of the paper: "What we need to do is to maintain a transcendent view of ourselves and our purposes. We need to remind ourselves that the cause we celebrate is that of responsiveness to our genuine human needs and to our capacity to love another human being. We need to remind ourselves that the freedom we seek is to be rid of the ignorance and superstitions that divide us inside ourselves and that separate us from each other and the rest of the society."

Specifically, David saw MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .! as a way of "building a stronger gay community and consciousness here in Sacramento." He saw the paper as a way of "meeting some of our own community's needs for information, communication, and entertainment." He saw the paper as a way of bringing gay men and women together.

Translating this vision into concrete activities, David organized our advertising department, our financial structure, and our distribution patterns. Indeed, with Linda Birner and James Graham, David organized and defined the working structure of the entire paper.

In the year that he was with MGW, David saw the staff grow from approximately 10 people to 40. He saw the number of subscriptions steadily rise. The goals for which he worked, through his contribution, are closer to realization.

We, the staff and the community, feel his resignation deeply. Yet we know that this personable, soft-spoken man, who wears a twinkle in his eyes, will continue to support the gay community, and contribute through his gentle intelligence to enlightenment wherever he goes.

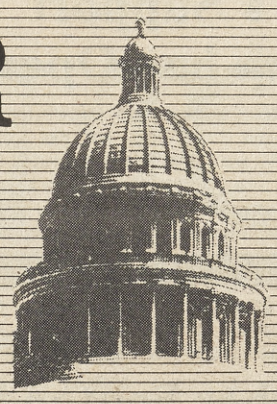
We thank him for his participation. We wish him success in all his activities!

Looking for Christmas Gifts. . .

Give Your Friends MOM . . . GUESS WHAT! Newspaper Subscriptions!

See page 21

UNDER THE DOME



Election Candidates in Review

by Gary Miller

Election Day is November 6. Where do candidates stand on gay issues? I have attended many candidates forums over the past few months and have spoken tc many of the candidates for Sacramento City Council and two school boards — Los Rios Community College Board and the Sacramento City School Board over the phone.

Candidates for City Council were asked, if elected, would you support legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment and housing against gay people? Candidates for the two school boards were also asked their position on Prop. 6 on the November 1978 ballot, the Briggs Initiative.

In some cases I have made my own recommendations. Their recommendations do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this paper or any other organization.

City Council

Three members of the City Council, who have been very supportive of the gay community, were re-elected in the September primary—Mayor Phil Isenberg and Council members Lloyd Connelly and Anne Rudin.

On the November ballot, we will have a run-off in two districts. In District 8 the two candidates are Patrick Donovan and Lynn Robie. When Robert Matsui was elected to Congress, Donovan was appointed by the City Council to fill the vacancy with the understanding that he would not run for election this fall. He made the promise, but later retracted it to run. Lynn Robie's campaign has been using this as her major issue — trust among politicians.

When Donovan was asked if he would support a gay rights ordinance, he answered in the affirmative. Robie stated that she "did not have a position on this issue, but I'm against discrimination. Talk to me after the election." Many gay political activists feel that Lynn Robie could be educated on this issue and that no matter who wins we would find an ally on the Council.

In District 8 both candidates would be acceptable on gay issues, whereas District 2 puts one reportedly anti-gay candidate against a candidate who is open to the issue. The two candidates are incumbent Blaine Fisher and challenger Charles Bradley. Four years ago these same two ran against each other and Fisher won. However, this year Bradley has a fairly good chance of pulling an upset.

Blaine Fisher's campaign manager reported that his candidate "would probably vote against a gay rights ordinance." Bradley, his opponent, has a position similar to Robie's non-commitment. But again he seems to be open and we could educate him on this issue. My personal recommendation in this race would be **Charles Bradley.** It is better to elect someone who is noncommital and open than someone who would vote against us.

Los Rios Community College Board

Los Rios College Board went on record last year opposed to Prop. 6. Those voting in favor of the resolution opposing the Briggs Initiative were Basil Clark and Tom DuHain (not up for re-election this year), Mark Sullivan and Robert Lynch (who are up for re-election this year), and Raymond Vandegriff (who has since resigned after being convicted of election fraud). Grace Ohlson and George Stewart abstained (both are up for re-election this year).

Robert Lynch is the incumbent in District 3. When I called him to ask if he still would oppose Prop. 6, Lynch reported that he had changed his mind. He would now support it. I asked if he had changed his position from 1976 when he said: "If I have anything to say about it [referring to the lesbian theatrical production on campus], we will have no more of these damn fools on any of our campus sites. I expect now the fags will ask for equal time and probably other assorted and bizarre weirdos will want to put on shows . . . As always there is a bright side to everything — i.e., we kept a lot of lesbians off the street for two nights running." He reported that this position still stands.

His major opponent is Darol Rasmussen, who came off as very supportive of gay rights. He opposed Prop. 6 and said he would support a gay rights ordinance because "such discrimination should not be tolerated."

A third candidate, Cherie Albusche, reported she didn't have a position on Prop. 6, but "would not fire a gay teacher as long as s/he didn't teach homosexuality in the classroom." She did not have an opinion on a gay ordinance. The fourth candidate in the race, Don Shaw, was planning to drop out of the race, even though his name remains on the ballot.

My personal recommendation would be to encourage everyone in that district to vote for **Darol Rasmussen,** who was very good on gay issues and has the best chance to beat homophobe Robert Lynch.

There are three candidates in District 4. When we asked the incumbent, Grace Ohlson, why she abstained on Prop. 6 when it came before the board, her reason was that she does not vote on non-agenda items in principle and the resolution to oppose Prop. 6 was not on the agenda. Ohlson said that she voted against Prop. 6 at the voting booth, would support a gay rights ordinance and defended gays against Robert Lynch's diatribe concerning the lesbian theatrical production.

However, her actions speak louder than her words, if the expressions of a gay and feminist activist are to be believed. Marghi Covina, owner with Pat Avila of the Hide 'N' Seek, reports that Ohlson has acted against the interest of gays and women and tried to rezone the area around the bar in order to get it out of the neighborhood. The reason for this, Covina quotes Ohlson, was "Otherwise I'm afraid that East Yolo will become the gay capital of California." Covina's response was, "I guess she has never heard of San Francisco." Ohlson was not available for comment on these accusations.

Ohlson has two challengers. Ira Clark opposed Prop. 6 and would support an ordinance. His campaign manager worked in the Nevada ERA effort. Ohlson's other opponent is Richard Stratful, who had "not really thought about that issue before," but seemed supportive and gave the right answers.

In District 5 the incumbent running for re-election is George Stewart. He was not able to give a logical answer when asked why he abstained on the Los Rios vote on Prop. 6.

His opponents include Lee Carter, Bob Crozier, and Amando Cid who all answered the questions favorably. Joe Debbs has dropped out of the race in favor of the incumbent.

Also in this race is gay activist Clay Shipway. Shipway was the founder of the Way Station, organized the Sacramento Gay Freedom Day Parade last year, and was quite involved in the No on 6 campaign.

In District 6 the incumbent, Sarah Gomez was appointed to the seat after Raymond Vandegriff resigned. She seems very supportive of gay issues. She opposed Prop. 6 and would support a gay rights ordinance. As a minority, a woman, and a single parent, I'm not in favor of imposing any lifestyle on others and I would support every effort to rid our community of any type of discrimination."

Gomez' challengers are Norman De Young (who could not be reached by phone), Ruth Rainwater ("I'm really not running and do not want to make a statement to your newspaper"), Leonie Rapaport (did not vote on Prop. 6, but did not believe that we should have a law prohibiting discrimination against gays), and Larry Wanlass (who did not have any opinion on gay rights). My recommendation in District 6 would be **Sarah Gomez.**

The incumbent in District 7, Mark Sullivan, voted against Prop. 6 and would support a gay rights ordinance. "I don't really support the gay groups on campus, though, but we have to recognize them, I suppose."

His main challenger is Greg Zermeno, who was the only candidate we talked to who actually solicited the support of the gay community. He voted no on 6 and supports an ordinance.

One candidate, Ted Oliver, feels school boards should be allowed to fire gay teachers. He would oppose an ordinance. "That's just too far out. It's not something that the City Council should get involved in. It would open up all kinds of problems and could lead to bloodshed."

Other candidates include Donald Heindenreich, Daniel Faiello, Marvin Woll, who all answered the questions properly. One candidate, Arthur Murray, compared two men or two women sleeping together to a black and white sleeping together. "It's nobody's business and certainly not grounds for dismissal." Robert Beigle cound not be reached by phone. My Recommendation is **Greg Zermeno.**

Sacramento City School Board.

Last fall the No on 6 campaign contacted every member of the Sacramento City School to ask them to take a stand against the Briggs Initiative. None were willing to do so at the time.

The incumbents running for re-election this fall are Grant Bennett, Thomas Chinn, Jackson Faustman, and Eva Garcia.

Grant Bennett said he opposed Prop. 6 and opposed discrimination but did not have a position on whether Sacramento should have an ordinance. When Grant Bennett ran for Supervisor last year against Ted Sheedy, he was asked about his position on the rights of gays and he responded at that time: Everyone is protected under the basic Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment. To expand legislation in this regard appears redundant."

Thomas Chinn said he opposed Prop. 6 and agreed "in concept" on a gay ordinance. Jackson Faustman, who has been on the board for 16 years, reported that he also opposed Prop. 6 but wasn't sure if we really needed a law prohibiting discrimination. Eva Garcia reported that she opposed 6 and would also support an ordinance.

The challengers are: Stewart Green, Donald McDermott and John Zacharias. Green and Zacharias opposed Prop. 6 and favored an ordinance. Though McDermott opposed Prop. 6, he wasn't sure that laws were needed to protect gays from discrimination.

Grant Joint High School District

Though we did not interview all candidates for this contest, one candidate has been very supportive of gay issues, **Scott Plotkin.** Plotkin worked on the No on 6 campaign, has bolstered gay representation in government, and has been supportive of gay rights generally. He deserves our support.

Ballot Measures

Though none of the ballot measures are gay-related as such, several deserve comment. Prop. 1 would restrict school busing for integration purposes. The gay community needs the support from other minority groups to gain our equality, and if we are to get their support we must support them when they need it, as on Prop. 1. My recommendation would be to vote No on 1.

Prop. 4 was authored by Paul Gann (of Jarvis-Gann). It would place a spending limitation on state and local governments, and continue the straightjacket approach to government that Prop. 13 had. My recommendation is **No on 4.**

On the local ballot Prop. C would increase sales tax ¼% to expand RT service. Those of us who rely on public transit know how much RT needs to improve. This tax would only amount to a few dollars per year per person. It will need a 2/3 vote to pass. My recommendation is a **Yes on C.**

Statewide Housing

In a precedent setting move, the State of California, Division of Fair Employment Practices has agreed to investigate and remedy housing discrimination cases against gay persons. This is the first time that gay tenants in California will have a state agency to assist them in sexual orientation discrimination cases.

This decision resulted from extensive negotiations with Governor Brown's office and other administrative officials by Paul D. Hardman of San Francisco and Mr. Thomas F. Coleman, a Los Angeles attorney.

In 1978 a decision was made by the Division of Fair Employment Practices not to handle gay housing cases, although it appeared that the Division had jurisdiction to do so. In August, 1979, this problem was discovered by Susan McGrievy, staff attorney for the Los Angeles Gay Community Services Center, when the Division refused to process several housing cases which she had referred to the Division for investigation. That same month the National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties intervened and brought the matter to the attention of J. Anthony Kline, the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary. Kline, Hardman, and Coleman then worked out a solution with Joanne A. Lewis, Chief of the Division of Fair Employment Practices.

Upon learning of the decision to handle gay cases, Thomas F. Coleman, Co-chair of the National Committee, commented, "This is another example of the firm commitment of the Brown administration to equality under the law for all regardless of sexual orientation. The intervention and assistance from the Governor's office probably saved us three years of litigation over this issue. Now that we have statewide protection in gay housing discrimination cases, we should refer such cases to the Division of Fair Employment Practices for resolution."

Gay March on Sacramento

California Human Rights Advocates, the State's Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobbying Organization, has put out a call to communities across the state to initiate a march on Sacramento January 12-14, 1980.

Alan Robertson, executive director of CHRA, returned from the October 14 march on Washington on October 17 to make the call.

Says Robertson: "The enthusiasm generated within the California delegation at Washington was overwhelming. We have obviously reached a point in this state where lesbian and gay rights supporters are no longer willing to settle for on-going dialogue. It is no longer enough for a legislator to listen and respond sympathetically to our legislative package. Our supporters are looking for action, not kind words. And they want it now, not five years from now."

The proposed march is being timed to coincide with CHRA's annual statewide meeting and lobbying day. The Board of Directors authorized the call for the march at its September 15 meeting, depending upon Robertson's observations in Washington, D.C. Robertson makes it clear, however, that CHRA is only making the call for the march and offering the framework of a conference that has already been planned.

"Ad hoc committees will be needed in every major city to provide local publicity, transportation, and organizational support. Our purpose is to give an early organizational impetus. However, we believe it is essential to have the organizational focus exist at the local level. This not only reduces the burden on CHRA, it clearly builds strength at the local level."

For the month of November, CHRA will act as a clearing house of information while local committees are activated. Any individuals or organizations interested in participating in local ad hoc committees should contact CHRA by November 16 at (916) 448-6666.

Jan Rudolf, CHRA's field coordinator, goes on to say, "I know from my travels that there are a lot of people in this state who were in Washington, D.C., in spirit. But they could not afford the time or the trip. Sacramento is closer to home. These people can now work actively to share in this enthusiasm."

CHRA Will Hear Reiss at Nov. Meeting

The next meeting of the Sacramento chapter of California Human Rights Advocates will be held on November 12, at 7 p.m. at the Incredible Edible Place, N Street and Alhambra Boulevard. Joan Reiss, candidate for State Assembly District 6, is scheduled to speak about her campaign, why gay people should support her, and how individuals from CHRA can help.

Joan Reiss is a strong supporter of human rights issues. She opposed Proposition 6 and has endorsed and worked hard for 1 and AB 188.

For further information, please call CHRA office, 448-6666.

National Gay Rights Bill adds Co-sponsors

Once again Congress has before it proposed legislation to protect the civil rights of lesbians and gay men in the U.S. The bill is H. R. 2074, introduced by Chief sponsors Reps. Ted Weiss (D, L-N.Y.) and Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) ; currently there are forty-four other co-sponsors.

H. R. 2074 would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by adding the words "Affectional or sexual orientation" to the lists of prohibited grounds for discrimination in the areas of employment, housing, public accomodations, and federal assistance. It has been jointly referred to the Judiciary Committee and the Deucation and Labor Committee of the House of Representatives.

A list of California Representatives who are current co-sponsors of H. R. 2074 appears at the end of this story. all but two of the last session's co-sponsors "re-enlisted," plus fifteen new supporters (the names of first-time co-sponsors are marked with an astrick in the list). The two hold-outs are Rep. Stephen J. Solarz, a Brooklyn Democrat who has been under a lot of pressure on this issue from Orthodox Jewish leaders in his predominantly Jewish district, and Rep. George E. Brown Jr. of Riverside/San Bernadino, California.

NGTF and the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) join in urging people to take the time to write their own representatives about H. R. 2074. Co-sponsors, especially new ones, should be thanked and urged to continue their support for the gay rights bill; non-sponsors, and especially Reps.Solarz and Brown, should be urged to put themselves on record as supporting equal rights for gay American citizens. Letters to representatives may be addressed simply c/o the House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Please send a copy of your letter to Steven Endean, Executive Director, GRNL, 1606 17th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20009.

Letters in support of H. R. 2074 should also include a statement of opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 166, an outrageously prejudicial measure introduced July 24 by Rep. Larry McDonald (D-Ga.) and backed by the homophobic Christian Voice lobby. The resolution would express it as "the sense of Congress" that "...consenual sodomy and other homosexual acts should never be accepted as legitimate in this Republic, nor should the class of individuals who advocate such conduct gain special consideration or protected status under law."

This attempt to undercut the national gay-rights bill in advance has been referred to the Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on constitutional and civil rights, which is chaired by Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif.), a co-sponsor of H. R. 2074. Edwards has told GRNL and the gay press that McDonald's resolution "will go nowwhere," but Steven Endean nevertheless considers this latest tactic of McDonald and his allies "a real threat" that needs to be decesively countered by an outpouring of opposition from gay and pro-gay-rights constituents.

Volunteers

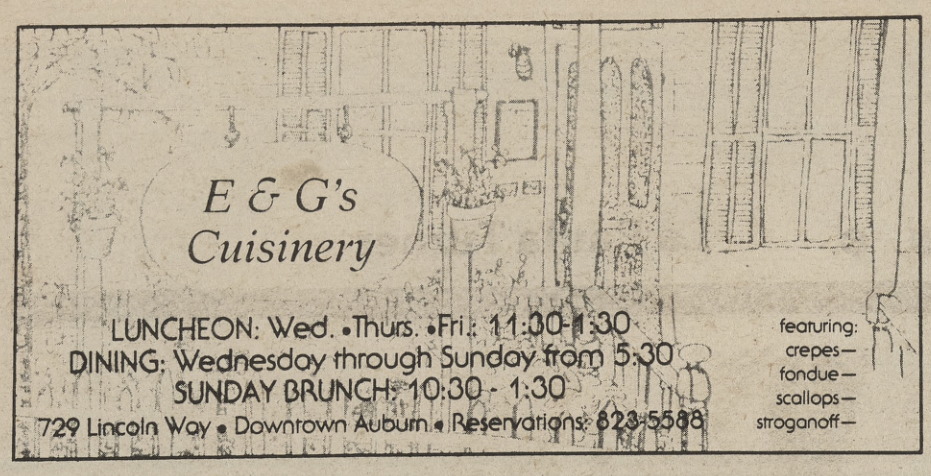
by Bill Spiller

California Human Rights Advocates (CHRA) is in need of several volunteers for a variety of positions.

Currently the openings are: **Typist** to type correspondence and copy for news releases, **Membership Person** to update the mailing list and collect dues for each membership, **Filing Clerk** to coordinate and file information in a filing system currently in effect, **Billing Person** to coordinate the billing system once a month, **Archive Person** to gather information, news clippings, legislation, etc. on gay related activities, and a **Follow-up Person** to check on Assembly Districts for constituent pressure in urging the passing of gay legislation.

Besides being useful in a position that will benefit the gay community, this would be a good way to keep abreast of legislative matters involving gays.

For further information, call Jan Rudolf at CHRA, 448-6666.



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Men's Support Group has Openings

Our gay men's support group, active in the Sacramento area for about three years, still has room for new members. We are a small group, limited to 8 or 10 men with a commitment to attend meeting for several months. Our discussions are generally informal and nonstructured, ranging from sexuality and personal issues to the gay community and current events. We are diverse in age, in interests, and in the degree in which we are "out." The group currently meets Tuesday evenings at members' homes. For further information, please call 457-8085 (Charles) or in Davis, 756-0764 (Jay).

Harsher Sentences for Rapists

by J. Ann Wessel

Governor Brown has signed a bill, SB13, sponsored by Sen. H. L. Richardson, that will double the sentences for rapists.

The bill threatened a political crisis early in September in the Assembly, where the members forced the Criminal Justice Committee to send it to the floor for a vote. It also divided feminist organizations.

The National Organization for Women joined prosecutors in supporting the measure. Five other women's groups urged Brown to veto it on grounds that the severity of the penalties would deter juries from convicting rapists.

The penalties will mean that some persons convicted of rape will serve longer prison terms than some convicted of first-degree murder.

The bill changes the method by which terms are calculated for violent and repeat offenses.

Sac City GPU Shaping Up

On Tuesday, October 9, the newly reborn Sacramento City College Gay Peoples Union held its first election of officers. The new Co-Chairpersons are Lisa Brand and Gary Kimball, who have both been active in reforming the organization this year. Also elected were a Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Representatives to the Inter-Campus Council.

The group meets every Tuesday at noon, Room MN221 and the membership has been growing each week.

A fundraising bake sale on campus is in the works, as well as a gay artists exhibit at the Library's gallery. Other activities include a monthly rap session open to the public, and weekly social functions, such as theme parties, potluck dinners, and group trips to the movies, to give the members a better chance to get to know each other and, hopefully, themselves.

Anybody interested in the meetings or other activities please call Gary at 453-0823 or Lisa at 756-3435.

Developing Personal Power

On the job, at parties or in small groups, we often, notice women who seem to possess a certain sense of confidence or power. It might be the way in which they say things, or their posture or eye contact with others. One thing is for sure: when they do speak, everyone listens. It's no accident that we perceive them as powerful -these women have often taken the time to develop that sense in themselves. It's important to know one thing: all of us have the capasity to develop our own personal power.

Dr. Maria Nemeth will conduct a workshop called developing personal power, on Saturday, December 8, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., South Sacramento. The fee for the one day workshop will be $25. and will include a nutritious lunch. Call Dr. Maria Nemeth for more information 393-3136.

In a supportive atmosphere the workshop participants will explore the meaning of personal power in their own lives. Then, using specific verbal and nonverbal techniques, each member will be given an opportunity to experience herself in a more self-confident manner.

(Maria is a clinical psychologist in private practice in Sacramento. She has delivered this workshop to numerous women's groups throughout California)

Episcopal Gay Priests Can't "Practice"

By J.Ann Wessel

In Denver, Episcopal bishops, who three years ago endorsed a proposal calling for full civil rights for homosexuals, adopted a resolution to bar practicing homosexuals from the priesthood in the three million member church.

The action came after a three hour meeting, attended by a crowd of more than 300 who jammed into the bishops' meeting room. One member of the audience had to be removed from the room after he jumped to his feet to urge that homosexuals be banned from the ministry.

The resolution now must be considered by the 904-member House of Deputies, made up of lay persons and priests.

The resolution said there should be "no barrier to the ordination of qualified persons of either hetrosexual or homosexual orientation whose behavior the church considers wholesome."

However, the bishops defined marriage as the only acceptable expression of sexuality. That recommendation means homosexuals could be ordained only if they would not take part in homosexual activities.

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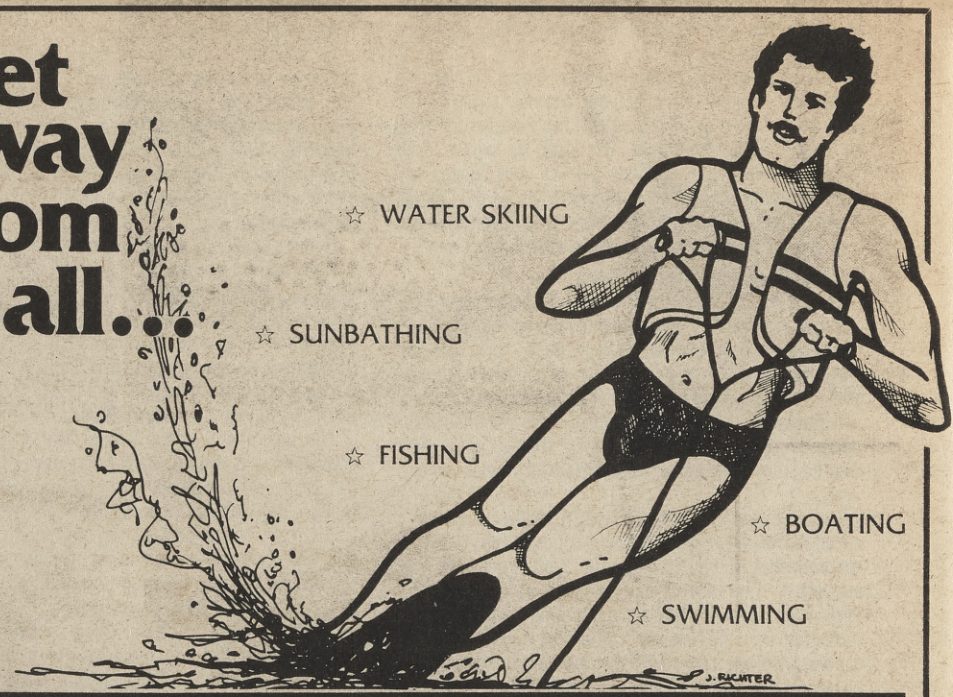

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TALKING TO... La Paula Turner

By J. Ann Wessel

I met La Paula for the first time when I did this interview with her. I was pleased to meet such a warm, receptive woman.

La Paula has recently accepted the position of Minister in the Metropolitan Community Church in Anchorage, Alaska.

She is a very attractive black woman and she discussed with me, along with being reunited with her children, the problems she has dealt with in being black.

Interviewer: How were you seperated from your children?

La Paula: I had been married to my ex-husband for 10 years. During that time I had six children. When I left him I took the children with me and tried to care for them on $110. a month that he was sending me. It was immpossible. He finally remarried and moved to Syracuse, New York, and took the children with him, I contacted him in order to communicate with my children but he said that would only upset them emotionally. It was at this point that I was just beginning to recognize my sexuality.

Interviewer: When were you reunited with your children and how did this come about?

La Paula: This past January, my oldest daughter, Gina, moved out on her own. This first thing she did was call information and get in touch with my mother, who gave her my phone number, and Gina called me. Then I proceeded to get in touch with the rest of my children. Karen, the daughter who lives in Sacramento now, did not have a telephone and Gina was not sure of her address, so I didn't get in touch with her until this March.

In May she decided she wanted to move to Sacramento to be with me, to get to know me. It was the first time I had seen her in 14 years. She lives here now with her two children.

Interviewer: How did Karen react to you being gay?

La Paula: She was very accepting of both Jan, my lover, and myself. I was 29 years old when I came out and it took me three years to accept myself. So Karen was much more accepting of my homosexuality at first than I was.

Interviewer: How long have you been with Jan Freels, your lover?

La Paula: Jan and I have been together for two years. We just had our Holy Union the 8th of September. Jan is not my first lover since recognizing my sexuality, but I know she's my only lover and it's just since she and I have been together that the rest fo my life has began to fall into place.

Interviewer: When did you first begin to experience racial harassment?

La Paula: Today racial harassment comes to us in very subtle ways. If I had never been exposed to what racism is I might not recognize it. I might just accept it as a way of life.

My husband was in the Air Force so we traveled a lot. I think most of my shock came during that time of traveling and recognizing just how prejudiced people really were. I was furious. I could not understand where they were getting thier rationale from. It's placing ego above everything else. Christ says to love your neighbor as you love yourself. But putting ego first is not loving yourself, it's not really caring. And that is what most of society does now.

When Jan and I first rented an apartment the landlord first did not want to rent to us. But he finally did, reluctantly, and after we lived there for a while he seemed pleased that he had rented to us. We took care of the apartment in a manner I don't think he expected. I guess it was all part of educating him too.

A lot of times I see the subtleties in people assuming I don't know how to do things because I am black. And they aren't even aware that that is what they are doing. At least they aren't aware of it until I blow up. And then they say "Well, I just thought maybe...you...didn't...," and then it starts to sink in. People have been conditioned by it and it just takes consciousness raising to make them aware of it.

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by J. Ann Wessel

Interviewer: Were you ever active in equal rights groups? Or involved in any of the equal rights movements?

La Paula: I lived in St. Louis, Missouri, during the time of Martin Luther King and the Watts riots. At that time I was in college and was a substitute teacher and also worked with a self-help program. I also went around to some of the outlying areas and lectured. So yes, I would say I was involved. At least I stood up for what I believed in. But I feel more accepting now of people's narrowmindedness.

Interviewer: Do you feel other blacks have been assertive enough in their struggle for acceptance?

La Paula: We always claim that people put us in different positions and most of the time that is true. But I think that we could accomplish more if we could accept people's narrow-mindedness. We don't always have to fight about it, but I think if we begin to assert ourselves more rather than just be agressive and really come out of the closets. The biggest problem a gay community has as a whole if that most of society sees gays as the middle-class white male. This is why lesbians have had ti fight hard to say, "We are lesbians, we are part of this community, and you have to recognize that and deal with us, and we have to deal with you. We have something to give each other." I think that blacks, chicanos, and all minority groups have to do the same thing. Be an inteegral working part and not have to beg. We don't want to have to develope incentive programs in the gay community for blacks to be a part of this organization that people have to go out and search for. We know what we can do. Accept ourselves. If we accept our whole selves then it would be much easier for non-blacks to accept all of us.

In the 1950's we always had one person to point to and let that person stand for our race and stand for what we believe in. But I feel we must all come out of the closet. I know we have some brilliant black, spanish, chicanos, and other ethinic groups who have a lot to contribute. If we don't assert ourselves, no one is going to do it for us.

Interviewer: Do you feel that you have had the support of the black community?

La Paula: I have not had the support of the black community, totally. A lot of it is my fault because we hide so well I don't always know where to go to find us.

Interviewer: Do you feel it takes a lot of stamina to propel an individual to fight for his or her rights?

La Paula: It takes a lot of courage to be heard but maybe that is why we are the color that we are, and the culture that we are, because it takes a lot of strength and I know we are strong.

Photo by J. Ann Wessel

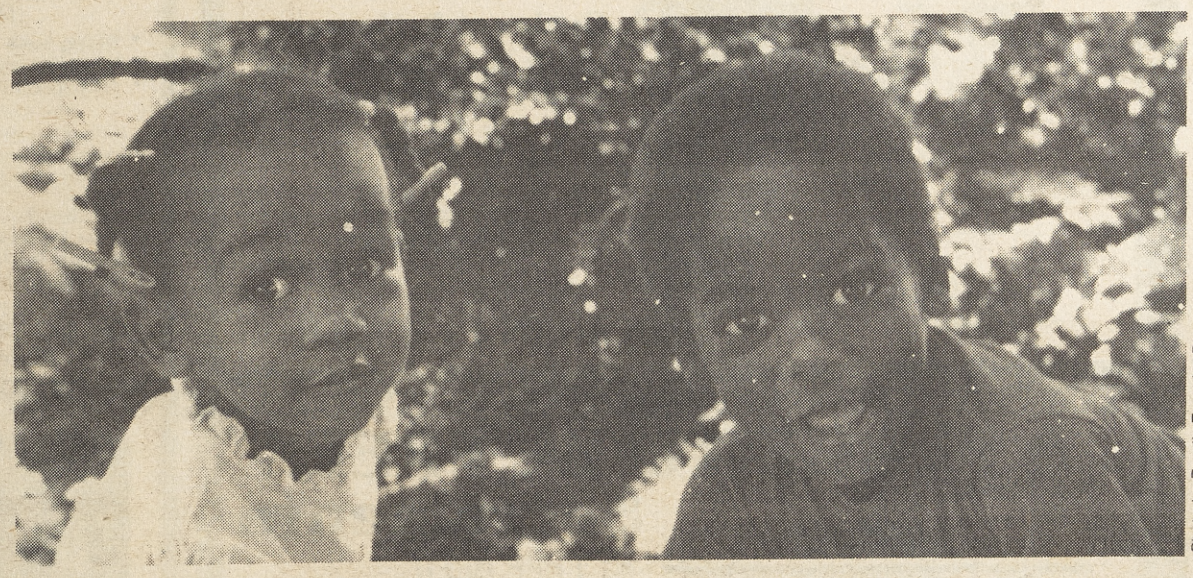

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by J Ann Wessel

HANDICAP~ABLE

The Season of Thanksgiving

by Tony Martin

This is the time of year when we all tend to reflect on our lives and give thanks for what we have. We try to be a little more understanding of our brothers and sisters.

In Chicago, Illinois, sits a young man who is perhaps finding it a little difficult to share these feelings with the rest of us. His name is Donald Lang, and he is sitting in Cook County Jail awaiting the outcome of his trial, a trial he was unable to participate in.

Donald Lang has been in custody in one form or another since 1965. Charged with the murder of a prostitute, he was found unfit to stand trial and sent to a mental hospital. He was there for six years, before being retried in 1972. He was convicted, but that decision was overturned by the Illinois Supreme Court. But he still sits in jail waiting for justice to be given him.

Why is this of importance to you and me? It is important because Donald Lang is a deaf mute. He was unable to communicate with the courts in his own defense, for he had never been taught sign language. The court ordered the state mental health agency to teach him, but they demurred, saying it was not their responsibility.

There are over three million Americans who suffer profound hearing loss. Over 15 million have some type of hearing impairment.

Justice for the deaf person is not always swift or even just, says Nancy Conners of the National Center on the Law and the Deaf. Conners says few deaf people know their rights. Worse, she says, many judges and attorneys are equally ignorant. Many deaf people are treated the same as the retarded.

Since 1975, the rights of the deaf person have been protected. Money was voted by Congress to set up programs to protect these rights. But Congress can't vote caring. They can't pass a law forcing us to care enough to learn to communicate with our deaf brothers and sisters.

So during this holiday season why not look around and discover what beautiful friendships you have been missing. Classes in sigh language are offered at most of the colleges in the area.

Then perhaps we can all be thankful that we have the opportunity to prevent future Donald Langs.

Happy Holidays!

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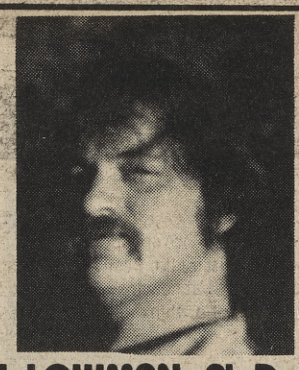
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FILMS

"Time After Time"

Reviewed by J. Ann Wessel

"Time After Time" is a different kind of motion picture thriller with a freshness that will tantalize the viewer and a force that will move you to the edge of your seat.

Basically, we have H.G. Wells, played by Malcolm McDowell, who also starred in "A Clockwork Orange" and "O Lucky Man," tracking down the criminal genius, Jack The Ripper, played by David Warner.

H.G. Wells makes the San Francisco scene after popping in directly from the 19th century in his time machine, which faithfully returned to him after carrying Jack to present-day S.F. He meets an attractive bank executive, Amy Robbins, played by Mary Steenburgen, who becomes involved with Wells in tracking down the madman.

Of course Miss Robbins is not easily convinced that Wells has arrived via a time machine. And Wells is equally surprised with Amy's liberated behavior.

Of course, H.G. Wells hunts down Jack The Ripper in his own super-scientific way. An innovative thinker in so many areas, Wells has rare insight into the psychology and behavioral strategies of this criminal genius.

In the chase and romantic sequences of "Time After Time," the vividly "today" look of San Francisco is captured by director-writer Nicholas Meyer, whose superb timing and fine directing leave the film flawless.

"Time After Time" is a highly entertaining movie featuring nerve-tingling action and an intriguing love affair with layers of warmth and humor. The film brings new dimension to the fabled H.G. Wells, who forecasted landings on the moon, the atomic age, and the benefits of technology.

The film is currently playing at the Century theatres on Arden Way.

"Luna"

Reviewed by J. Ann Wessel

Bernardo Bertolucci created a great deal of controversy when he wrote and directed "Last Tango in Paris." However, his recent film "Luna" is bound to generate even more controversy because of its extremely delicate subject matter — incest.

This is Bertolucci's first English-language feature and like most of his films it deals with the exposure of human despair.

"Luna" is not just a story about incest. The mother, Caterina, played by Jill Clayburgh, is an opera singer, and Joe, her fifteen-year-old son played by Matthew Barry, is a heroin addict. The heroin addiction seems to be an extension of their already addictive relationship and the lack of routine in their lives gives the feeling of the confusion around and within them.

Caterina does not pay much attention to her son until after his step-father dies, at which point she and her son pack up and move to Italy. They live in a big house but never seem to get settled in; their home is like their relationship; it's never complete.

Bertolucci, being something of an iconoclast, believes that "taboos exist to be broken," and he does not hesitate to do this in "Luna."

Always reluctant in making films emotional, Bertolucci does not spare us emotions in this film. The tasteful way in which he develops this theme allows us to view it with an openness and willingness to accept what is so about our own feelings. The dance sequences in the film are symbolic of freeing emotions which emphasized their lack of suppression.

I was captured by the intensity of the film with its insight into a private world. The hatred Joe displayed was ignored by his monther, who only loved him. The homosexual overtones in the film were subtle but obvious, perhaps a representation of the difficulty some of us have in accepting our own sexuality.

Bertolucci thinks of the camera as being tied to our subconscious. And at times I felt like a voyeur trapped inside the camera, forced to look at my own feelings in a way that was sometimes uncomfortable if not painful. One realizes that "Luna" is not psychological — the characters are dominated by the subconscious.

"Luna" is an excellent film. It is not a depressing movie but rather shows how human beings can ultimately rise above their particular situation. It is complex only in that it provokes the emotional complexities within us.

Bertolucci acknowledges that the depiction of incest seems to serve as a kind of commentary on modern society and the failure of the family to provide either solace or support.

In a question-and-answer forum at the recent San Francisco Film Festival, Bertolucci said he was not concerned about how an audience goes into a theatre but how they come out. "Maybe for some moralistic reason, people will condemn 'Luna,' but I think it will produce an echo in everybody," he said. Indeed it will.

"Luna" is currently playing at the Tower Theatre on Broadway.

"Apocalypse Now"

reviewed by Joyce Bright

By now most of you have probably heard or read something about Francis Coppola's $31 million film, "Apocalypse Now." The movie is based on Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness," in which a British officer is sent up river in Africa to investigate a colonialist named Kurtz who has reportedly gone mad. The river symbolizes the subconscious.

Coppola superimposes on that theme a supposedly true story by Frank McCulloch about a Green Beret colonel in Vietnam involved in assassinations which threaten the Pentagon war plan.

"Apocalypse" brilliantly developes both theme and plot. Capt. Willard, played by Martin Sheen, is ordered to go up river into Cambodia and "terminate with extreme prejudice" the activities of mad Col. Kurtz, Marlon Brando. The majority of the movie is devoted to the journey up river. Each painful episode on that journey reveals another horror, and each episode prepares for a final unveiling of the primal heart, the irrational subconscious in its most terrifying manifestation.

The acting is outstanding. The cinematography, by Storaro, is stunning .However, that isn't what I want to talk about. I want to talk about art, and the meaning of this film.

Most people go to a film to be entertained, to escape from the confusion or the boredom of life. Audiences want to sit, and passively accept, whatever silly nonsense writers and directors can throw together. The critics complain that American directors don't produce "art films."

Those same critics are now praising or damning Coppola for his new "smashing Vietnam War adventure film." They missed the point. "Apocalypse Now" is **not** a war adventure film.

Great art is that magical vehicle that gives you personally an experience of who you are. It talks to you. It is largely ignored in this country because the dialogue is not always pleasant.

It is easier to pretend that "Apocalypse" is about the war in Vietnam than to come to terms with the irrational, the evil, within each of us, that perpetuates insanity. As is stated early in the movie, "There's a conflict in every heart between the rational and the irrational, good and evil, and the good does not always triumph." That's what this film is a about.

This movie is a journey into your heart. Martin Sheen says that the story being told is a "confession." He confesses for all of us. Later in the film, in reference in Brando, a man says, "He's clear in his mind, but his soul is mad." Col. Kurtz is "worst than crazy, he's evil."

Early in the movie Martin Sheen is sitting in his Saigon hotel room, and he says: "I sit in this room doing nothing, and grow weak. There are men sitting in the jungle doing nothing, and they grow strong." In frustration at his own impotence, he then slams his fist through a mirror, mutilating both his hand and his reflection. Then he does something; he begins the journey up river. We all should take that journey.

One of the greatest functions of art is to allow us to come to terms with the unpleasant forces within us. The point is not to damn oneself with judgements or guilt, but to take a careful look at these subconscious forces that are part of being human. To repress what is ugly is to insure that it will continue.

Because, you see, three hundred years ago, in moments of moral hysteria, homosexuals were burned at the stake. Forty years ago we cremated Jews in Germany. And ten years ago we brutally killed entire villages in Vietnam for very righteous reasons. Coppola shows in all its insane dimension the sweeping horror of which we are all capable.

We are doomed to repeat these insanities until we all journey into our own hearts, and confront the fear that rules there. Coppola's film is a guide for that journey.

"Apocalypse Now" is a courageous work of art.

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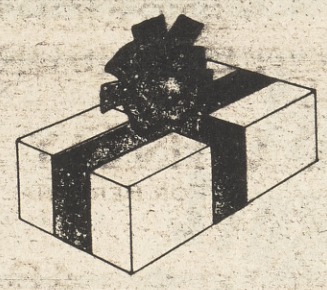

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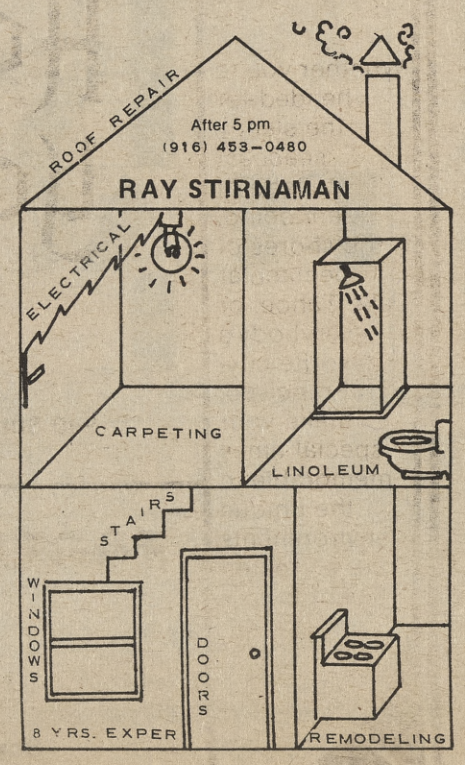

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Gay Programming Get Support

By Bill Spiller

As reported last month in MOM...GUESS WHAT...!, KIXE, a PBS affiliate station in Redding, was involved in a controversy over the second airing of "Word Is Out", a film featuring 26 gay men and women and their lifestyles.

Reverend Royal Blue of the Redding area North Valley Baptist Church, threatened to withdraw his and his congregation's support of KIXE, which relies on viewer support to operate, if "Word Is Out" was rerun.

A letter appeared in the local newspaper requesting all people opposed to KIXE's running "Word Is Out" to call and write KIXE and voice their concern.

According to Lauray Yule, programmer for KIXE, very few letters were received cancelling support memberships to KIXE because it had shown "Word Is Out". "In fact", Yule stated, "We have received more support than non-support for our airing "Word Is Out".

Susan Prince, Program Manager of Channel 6 KVIE in Sacramento, also a PBS affiliate, stated, "We received a few negative responses when we first aired "Word Is Out"; however, we didn't receive any this summer, to my knowledge, during the second airing. The response has been favorable."

Gay Atheists on FM KXPR

On Saturday, November 17, at 6 p.m., Interface Gay Radio, on KXPR (88.9 FM) will broadcast a press conference with officers and members of GALA, Gay Atheist League of America.

The constitution of GALA, a national organization, stresses these aims and purposes:

(1) To promote a positive image of lesbians and gay males, and of the virtues of Atheism as a philosophical stance.

(2) To work toward the complete seperation of the church and state and, in particular, to oppose the influence of religious conditioning on legislators, judges, and law enforcement agents when they pass, interpret and enforce the laws that affect the lives of lesbians and gay males.

GALA was organized two years ago and has members in forty-two states and many foreign countries.

Gays Under 21 Meets Weekly

Gays under 21 have been holding weekly meetings every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Way Station, I and 14th Streets in Sacramento.

According to Alvin, one of the founders, "People have expressed much interest in the club but many have failed to attend any of the meetings. We have some, but do need more permanent members.

"Meetings have been devoted to discussion concerning the structure of the Club," states Alvin. "However, a couple of meetings offered social activities which I believe were very successful."

The Club's purpose is to provide those under 21 with counseling of any type and a variety of activities. Both are always held every Thursday, but the activities may also be held on other days, depending on the activities being offered.

Business meetings are held by the leaders every first Friday of the month to determine aspects of business and the following months activities.

The club welcomes all those under 21, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual preference, or financial status.

For more information call Alvin, 451-3600; Rick, 447-1108; or the Way Station, 447-1171.

Alvin also stated, "We would like to welcome back Richard Manges, who's letter to MOM...GUESS WHAT! several months ago sparked the formation of the Club.

Also we would like to thank Jason, James, and Linda of the **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** staff for their support of the club in **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** Without them, the Club could not have come into existence.

Womankind Health Clinic

by Bill Spiller

Laura Hogan, co-coordinator of Womankind Health Clinic, announced the opening of its service starting September 15, 1979.

Womankind is a non-profit health clinic with services provided primarily for women and staffed by women.

The office, located at 701 Howe Avenue, Suite 46, is open Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Womankind currently offers gynecological testing, family planning, health related educational and counseling services, all available on a low-cost, sliding scale fee with Medi-Cal accepted. Services are available to **everyone** regardless of the ability to pay.

No appointments are necessary. The clinic is served on a drop-in basis and is staffed by community volunteers, medical students, local doctors, and local healthcare workers.

Womankind, since it is operating as a non-profit organization, is in need of medical equipment and volunteers. For more information regarding the clinic, phone 753-7999.

Bowling

by Vic

There are a number of openings still available for our first Gay Winter Bowling League. Consequently, if you haven't signed up but wish to bowl, most of our bar establishments have sign-up sheets or you may enter the league by calling me at 441-4170 Monday thru Friday between 6 and 8 in the evening.

Hurry! Available spaces are going quickly.

Women's Sports League season Takes Off

Planning for 79-80 Sacramento Women's Sports League season is currently under way. Officers have been elected and there are still some openings for those interested. The coming year looks to be even better than the last.

A Friday night basketball free-for-all is now happening for all interested; call 457-8715 for more information. Initial efforts for basketball were to get a team together from our SWS League to enter the city league; however, turnouts to practices were low and the Friday get-together is the substitute plan.

If you are interested in playing volleyball, contact MGW, newspaper or 444-7353. Teams or individuals, serious or not-so serious, all are welcome. So, put your team together!!

Plans for the 1980 baseball season are also starting. We are planning a shorter season with games on Friday nights as well as on Sundays. This way every team should be able to play every week. If you are interested in playing baseball, coaching, or being involved in some other area, call 444-7353.

The event we have all been waiting for, the Annual Women's Sports League Dance, is scheduled for January. This promises to be the biggest one yet, so check MGW next month for more information and come out and support your Sports League.

Sports are a great way to have fun, relate to other women, and complete in a way that lets you feel good about yourselves and the team you play with. Nothing feels better than playing hard and good together with other women you care about.

If you want to play, organize, coach, or be part of our Sports League, get involved. There is a meeting Sunday, November 4 at 6 p.m. For more information, call 444-7353.

Gay Native American Group to Start

By Pamela Garrett, Cherokee

American Indian gay groups have been forming in major cities over the last five years, but I was unable to locate any such organization in the Sacramento area. It is my personal observation that even the most politically aware and effective advocates of Indian rights have a very tough time publicly acknowledging their own rights as gay people.

This is yet another sad commentary on the disastrous effects of the European invasion upon our native cultures, for many tribes prior to contact with the "pioneers" fully included their homosexual members in tribal activities.

Today, however, many of the younger members of our communities are unaware of this aspect of our history and have adopted the negative attitudes of the media culture. It is important for those of us who have some awareness of the old ways to begin speaking and writing on this subject in order to free our Indian communities from this unfortunate and confused form of hatred.

It is also important for us to form a local group or society so that we may share our experiences and insights with one another and provide mutual understanding and support. Most of the gay Indian men and women I spoke to expressed a personal reluctance to come out in print, but were eager to have information about any Native American gay group that may form in the Sacramento area.

The Gay Switchboard in Berkeley (1-415-841-6224) can supply information on the groups active in the Bay Area willing to help with organization.

Lady Garnet Presents

Lady Garnet Presents is having the first annual Masque Ball of Sacramento, on December 1 at 8 p.m. in the Center Court Ballroom of the Hotel El Rancho, 1029 W. Capitol Ave., West Sacramento.

The theme of the ball is "Cinderella and Prince Charming." The colors are pink, blue, lavender, and purple with white. Dress is formal; costume, casual.

There will be open competition and awards in the following categories: Best Female, Cinderella $200; Best Male, Prince Charming $200; Best Group or Court Presentation $100.

Entries will be judged on poise, presentation, and dress. The ball will also feature door prizes, live entertainment, disco dancing, and raffle prizes.

Tickets are on sale at local bars and through the members of Lady Garnet Presents. There will be a free bus tour on Friday, November 30 to the local bars, starting at 8 p.m. from the hotel, and an awards brunch on Sunday, December 2 at 11 a.m. Tickets are $5 in advance.

Democratic Central Committee

Applications are now being taken for the several vacancies on the Sacramento County Central Committee for the Democratic Party. This body is the governing board of the Party in the county.

In addition, Gary Miller, the first out-front gay person to be appointed, will be accepting applications for the position of alternate.

Anyone who is interested in any position should contact Gary Miller, Box 2103, Sacramento 95810, or (916) 454-2176.

BETWEEN THE COVERS

Ed Dean is Queer

by N.A. Diaman. 224 pp. Persona Press, Box 14002, San Francisco, CA. $5.95

Reviewed by Joyce Bright

Ed Dean Is Queer begins in Miami when former Hollywood actress Benita Ryan, Mrs. Ed Dean, turns from doing milk commercials to launching a national anti-gay campaign.

The main character, Luis Rivera, is a New York journalist who goes to Dade County to cover the special election with its homosexual referendum imspired by Benita's campaign. As a follow-up story, Luis is off to San Francisco, and to a confrontation with his own sexuality.

Most of this novel is set in San Francisco. It is concerned with the events of the last year, and through the characters, how those events affect gays. More exciting, it is a vision of the future. The events are recorded, but as Luis says, he is "not seeking reality but truth." What might San Francisco be like in 1983?

Black lesbian artist Joanna Jefferson is a major character in the book. From the first gay march to her mayoral campaign in 1983, she finds herself increasingly involved in politics. She is a believable drawn, inspirational figure.

Yet this is not a novel filled with political rhetoric. "Benita Ryan knew something was terribly wrong when she turned into orange blossom court and saw the house ablaze with light." In that opening sentence mr. Diaman establishes his terse, grabbing, and lucid style. The novel does not wander: it is fast paced and purposefully written.

There is much to think about in this book, although the novel is not "heavy." For example, one of the characters says, "There's tolerance in San Francisco but that's not the same thing as acceptance." True.

There is also romance and humor.

What I liked best, though, is this book's up-beat feeling. Many gay novels still deal with broken relationships, suicides, and desperately confused people as though gay life were one long adventure into masochistic Angst. **Ed Dean Is Queer**, while dealing with sociological realities, nevertheless breathes a firm confidence that we can create a meaningful future for ourselves. We are bright, psychologically healthy, quite capable people.

I found this novel very well written. Thematically it was hugely satisfying. In N.A. Diaman's vision we have become who we are; the dream is complete, and it wasn't a nightmare.

Metropolitan Life: A Review of Sorts

by Rick Ruman

Metropolitan Life. Hardbound, E.P Dutton $8.50; paperbound Fawcett Crest Books, $2.25.

Have you ever pondered such questions as: Is there life elsewhere in the universe? In our solar system? In old Sacramento? If so, you won't be surprised to learn that Fran Lebowitz doesn't provide any of the answers in **Metropolitan Life**. However, this is not because she doesn't know how to ask such questions and provide hysterically funny answers. What if, for example, there were not only stage mothers, but headwaiter mothers, talk-show-host mothers or restaurant-critic mothers? She asks in **"Success without College."**

Lebowitz has been regaling readers of Andy Warhol's Interview and **Mademoiselle** with a "...ferociously witty fell swoop..." for some time--or so says the inside jacket of her book. It is from those magazines that many of the pieces in the book were chosen. I first became acuqainted with, and intrigued by, her work after reading a profile in now-defunct **New Times** magazine. Book flap puffery aside, Lebowitz is not just another pretty, neurotic, New York wit: she is a practioner of the almost lost art of sophisticated humorous essay writing. The kind of writing that brings a self-congratulatory smile to your face when you realize that you were clever enough to see the point of it all.

It appears that there is nothing that Lebowitz likes--or at least nothing that does not have some aspect that irritates her. She attacks all subjects with aplomb. She abhors athletic contests, or at least those that require her participation "...to me the outdoors is what you must pass through in order to get from your apartment into a taxicab." A special Olymics is in order for New Yorkers, she says, featuring events such as party going, dry-cleaning, dog owning and press agentry.

What makes her work a joy to read, aside from her writing skill, is her ability to find the obscure, yet logical, extention of fashions, manners, morals, and fads. Why, she asks in "Not in the Mood Jewelry," shouldn't a person who depends upon his ring or bracelet to tell him what mood he is in, also demand that the bauble disclose wheather he is short or tall?

The success of Lebowitz' humor depends a good deal upon the reader's acceptance of the elitist attitude that prevails through out her work. She sets herself up as the arbiter of good taste and proceeds to pass judgement. "I am not a callous sort," she writes in "Manners." "I believe that all people should have warm clothing, sufficient food and adequate shelter. I do feel, however, that unless they are willing to behave in an acceptable manner they should bundle up, chow down, and stay home."

No doubt there is a good deal in the world that is in bad taste. I sometimes find myself agreeing with Lebowitz; I always find myself amused by her work.

OFF THE RECORD

Record Reviews
by Joyce Bright

Vivaldi: Gloria conducted by Marcel Couraud. Mozart: Exsultate, Jubilate conducted by Ferdinand Grossmann. Turnabout TV 4029 S, $4.98.

Vivaldi's **Gloria**, much too large to be included in the liturgical service, was intended as a religious creative work. It reveals his highly individual manner. For example, his handling of the second line "et in terra pax" is set in a minor key. Because of his style, this exuberant work continually surprises the listener; the powerful choral numbers and the lyrical arias, sections of transparent simplicity next to dramatic passages and a piece of pastoral tranquility. The work is joyful.

Mozart's **Exsultate, Jubilate** is, as the Latin indicates, exalted and jubilant. This is a "miniature concerto" done in three contrasting sections, the second consisting of a recitative and aria. The work is vocally challenging, and superbly executed by Friederike Sailer, the soprano.

Indeed, the overall quality and the sweeping joyfulness of this album make it an excellent choice as a Christmas gift for those of your friends who like high church sounds.

Medieval Paris: Music of the City. Purcell Consort of Voices, directed by Grayston Burgess. Candide CE 31095, $4.98.

The most ambitious compositions of the Middle Ages, the organa, derived from one-line church chants to which more voices were added. Incessantly repeated rhythmic patterns give this music a forward impetus and drive nicely demonstrated on this recording.

Motets, the most refined and elegant chamber music of the late 13th century, are represented in works by the composer Petrus de Cruce. In the selection "S'amours eust point de poer" one's attention is focused on the top line of the polyphony which increases in pace as the lower voices slow down. The effect is delightful.

Medieval musicians had an assortment of instruments to choose from: fiddles, lutes, guitars, hurdy-gurdys, psalteries, and recorders, for example. Dances conceived for these instruments were constructed as a series of double verses, each couplet ending with the same refrain. The "Estampie Royal" in this recording has the breezy dance quality associated with roving minstrels and Medieval faires.

The French trouveres celebrated the virtues of their ladies or the joys of court life. La Halle's "En mai, quant rosier" evokes vocally all the sweetness I'm sure those court ladies provoked.

This is a fine, even album that speaks to us of a distant time; a simpler music from a less complicated age.

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Annie Overby

Editor's note: This brief letter accompanied Annie Overby's contribution to this issue:
"Dear God,
"I hope that these poems will serve to fill my space for November. If not, fine, I will only maim myself.
"Love,
"Annie
"P.S. Enclosed, please find a small bribe." Of course, as usual, the bribe was totally unnecessary.
Editor's Note: The "Bribe" was a piece of candy . . .

Upon Reexamination . . .

Most of my life I thought that the really important things happened only in New York, London, Paris or Rome. Then I was hit by a speeding Mack truck on the outskirts of North Platte, Nebraska.

Rock Collector . . .

My brother sent me a small stone from Viet Nam. It burned my hand to hold it. I wanted for a night with no moon then took it to the park and threw it into the duck pond. Next morning all the lovely ducks were floating ugly dead. I never told it was me who had done it. After all they were only ducks. Plenty more where they came from.

Cresent Moon . . .

Only in her third summer she turns to me supposing I know everything and asks if the moon is broken. Gall in my mouth I am tempted to answer. "YES* EVERYTHING . . ." I see her waiting flower face and am ashamed. "Yes," I say, "the moon is broken, isn't it pretty, sweetheart?"

Mental Cruelty . . .

They agreed to meet on the open prairie, far. They would be naked, as to conceal no weapons. Yet in their hearts they carried bombs, bullets, sharp cutting things and oceans of red-hot venom. Finding no marks on the bodies the coroner was puzzled as to the cause of death.

Marriage #347 . . .

At times like this I seek a place
Where no one knows my ass or face
But now that I come to dwell on it, dear,
That's exactly what I have here.

No name mine . . .

They's crows outside my window you silly you fool. Crows calling just right there. You hear them too you deaf dumb sorry sight you. You see them and hear them talk and talk and talk. You know all about this now and more. You send these things on me and laugh and laugh. My mad hands wait on you to hold still a minute like them bad birds wait on us to come clean true. They're sittin' there as me here for you to hold still. Then you'll see for them all to know how things are and how they mean to go you. *Fluttering you and damn you my soul.*

Disgruntled . . .

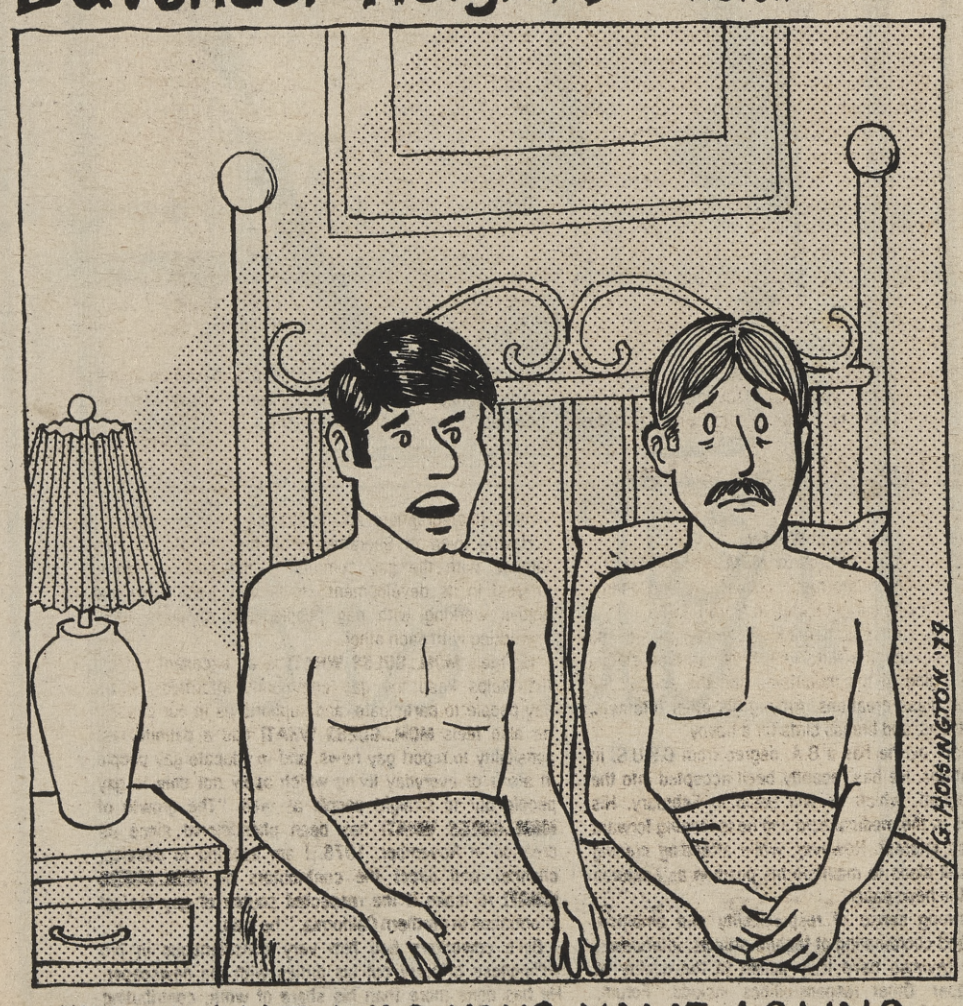
Fella if you wonder where
Woman fits in your affair
Do peruse your underwear
Find a cocklebur in there

Woman if you wonder where
Fella fits in your affair
Do peruse your frigidaire
Find a turkey lurking there

Taking care of me . . .

You can see for yourself that there on the table I have a clay bowl filled with smooth and perfect pebbles. So if you're going, go.

Lavender Heights by GENE HOISINGTON



UH... WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?

MOM: The First 12 months

a brief history of content by Edgar Poma

Premiere Issue, November 1978

MOM appeared with its familiar white--black logo designed by publisher Linda Birner. The first issue was twelve pages long and featured a front-page statement of purpose and goals by Birner and executive editor David C. Weinerth. In addition to and Weinerth, the staff box bore the names of editor James Graham, two photographers, and eight contributing writers. There were 32 paid advertisements in Issue #1, 92% of them present advertisers. There were 21 distribution points in Novemebr, and the first issue was seen by over 5000 people.

The traditional election month stimulated a heavy amount of political coverage, such as a commentary on the Josette Mondanaro Senator John Briggs debate, a Proposition 6 update, and a full-page "Candidates Speak Out on Gay Rights" articles with MOM endorsements.

Issue #2 December 1978

The banner of issue#2 identified MOM...GUESS WHAT! as **A Sacramento Area Newspaper for Women and Men of the Gay Community and Friends.** In a front page editorial, James Graham dedicated this issue of MOM to the memory of Harvey Milk and George Moscone.

Highlights of the second issue's 16 pages: Dr. Harvey Thompson's **IN MEMORIAM** POEM TO Harvey Milk; **"Mom's Family Shares Holiday Feast,"** a 2--page photo--filled spread featuring a mouth-watering holiday menu; and congratulatory letters in **"Write!",** a letters to the editor column.

Issue #3, January 1979

MOM's third issue was notable for its coverage of women artists. The cover featured a beautiful pen-and-ink drawing entitled "Unfold," by Georgiana Sanders, more of whose work illustrated a long feature interview of her paper. In addition, there were stories on Sonoma County artist Noreen Scully and Sacramento assemblage--creator Marcheta Smith.

Other articles alerted readers to the importance of lobbying on AB 1 Day, told of the formation of Friends and Families of Gays, and reported on the annual Snow White Ball for women.

Issue #4, February 1979

Sixteen pages long, the February MOM was loaded with more news and more established and confident set-up in graphics and content. In the editor's column **"From the Inside Out,"** James Graham summarized the feeling behind MOM...GUESS...WHAT!: "Originally we named this journal MGW because that's the phrase so many of us have used when affirming our gay identifies. But I would like to think that through the diversity of the contents of our paper that phrase could take on another meaning: that it could reflect the pride and wonder we ourselves experience when we see the marvelous creativity and the kaliedoscope variety of the people in our community."

Highlights: A commentary on labels and language by Sue Diehl; "Valentine" month coverage on Joe Shields and allen Chamberlin; and Tim Washburn's poetry.

Issue #5, March 1979

"Gay Lobby in Trouble!" was the bold headlines for Issue 5, 24 pages long. The March issue welcomed features that would become popluar regulars: "Annie Overby" "Gay Writes" by Dr. Marty Rogers, and Sports by staff members.

Highlights: "Cruising" by Doug Biggert; opera reviews by Robert Tzakiri; the first "negative" letter in "Write!" penned by Lynne Ohlson complaining about James Graham and Kathy Davenport's reviews of a Holly Near album in the February issue.

The march issue featured a special creative writing section with personal and very touching poetry by Allen Chamberlin, J.B. Spencer, Conley H. Greene, Charlotte Evans, Tim Washburn, Jody Fenimore, Jason Lindo, and Jan Rudolf.

Issue #6 1979

Twenty pages in length, the April issue marked MGW's first six months of life. In an editorial, James Graham reconfirmed MOM's objectives as a community-oriented newspaper, not a newspaper geared more to females than males or vice versa. Bill Spiller joined the staff as associate editor, and Lawrence Press became MOM's restaurant reviewer.

Highlights: Political analysis by Joan Reis; Sue Diehl's interview with Art Agnos; a two- page spread on gay business people; and a letter from Kevin Casey, a local activist, naming MOM as "...an invaluable aid carrying out my responsibilities (as co-chair of several gay groups) and in keeping tabs on what other groups are doing. And as a member of the gay community, I'm grateful to have a newspaper which I can present to non-gays without apologies or excuses for sleazy pictures and advertisements."

Issue #7 May 1979

From James Graham's editorial on Gay Awareness to the bulging Business Directory on the last page, the May issue was a continuation of the newspaper's devotion to positivism of the gay lifestyle.

Highlights: Artist profiles by Pam Garrett; a Napa Valley and Wilbur Springs tour by James Graham; an entertaining "Motorhoming" piece by Linda Birner; camping article by Shireen Miles; the debut of "Grow it". a gardening column by Marcia Erickson; and report on the River City Business Association by Norv Giles, who would later be elected president of that organization.

Issue #8, June 1979

As a last minute Father's Day "switch," MOM...GUESS WHAT...! became DAD...GUESS WHAT...! and was one of MOM's finest issues, especially with a gay literature theme that featured exclusive interviews with Dan Curzon and Rita Mae Brown, book reviews, book news, and more interviews.

Other highlights: "Dan White Verdict an Outrage" by James Graham; Rick Cartiere's review of a Judy Chicago masterpiece in San Francisco; "A Living Memorial" by Jody Fenimore (describing his childhood days living "next to an old crab named Julie Nichols. Julie always pointed out my bosomly grandma which ones of us were going to be okay or not okay.").

More highlights: the first of Tony Martin's handicapped gays articles; Pamela Burns on finances in "Go For It"; and an exciting expanded "Write!"

Issue #9, July 1979

The stylish layout, revamped ads, and general technical "housecleaning" and perfecting gave MOM a totally professional look for its 24--page ninth issue, focusing extensively on Sacramento's first gay parade, country gays, and talk about a new gay comunity center.

Highlights: Greg Loe's interviews with Gary Miller and Linda Birner of the Human Rights Commision; an interview with Frank Treadway; "I Pledge Allegiance" investigative report by Rick Cartiere; "Sexy in a Wheelchair" by Tony Martin; "Newsbriefs" by Rick Cartiere; Carole Nutt's interview with Pat Bond; Edgar Poma's "Coping column;" and FFOG Lights by Joseph Hobson.

Issue #10, August 1979

"Gays and Family" was the theme of the August issue, and in his editorial, James Graham discussed the importance of gay family unity. In the August issue, more columns were introduced, including "Accent on the Go" by Natasha Shamone, an inside look at fashions for fall.

Highlights: "Sexism is Sexism" by Greg Loe; "Talking to the MOM" by Jason Lindo, an interview with Carol Hull; gays under 21 coverage by Edgar Poma; and review of Sally Gearhart Miller's **The Wanderground** by Ginny McReynolds.

Issue #11, September 1979

The marvelous cover photo for the September issue showed the main cast of "Cowdykes at the Lavender Coral," a production of Le Theatre Lesbian, Inside, MOM staff members (Approximately 40 people) covered everything from Donna Summer's new disco album to gay health care in Sacramento, with a center spread featuring a descriptive listing of organizations and establishments. The most noticeable entry was perhaps Gene Hoisington's "Lavender Heights" comic.

Issue #12, October 1979

Music was the theme of MGW's twelfth issue, dominated by long interviews with Jon R. Sims, founder and director of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band, and Carter Nice, new Music Director of the Sacramento Symphony. Doug Biggert contributed another of his "Confessions of an Amateur Jazz Freak," and James Graham reviewed a dozen new albums of classical music.

A front-page editorial urged readers to support AB 1 by writing to legislators, and Michael Raymond told the story behind the support given Gay Rights Advocates by Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy. "Forum," a sounding board for opinions on issues confronting the gay community, got off to a good start with provocative essays by Joyce Bright and Randy Sumner on the subject of promiscuity.

Ginney McReynolds reported on "A Light Night of Women's Music" and J. Ann Wessel and Michael Raymond reviewed current Bay Area theatre.

RCBA to Work, Meet with Sac Police

by Norv Giles

As a result of the recent verbal sparring between Sacramento law enforcement agencies and the River City Business Association, lines of communication have been established successfully with the City Police Department and not so successfully with the County Sheriff's Department.

The Deputy Sheriff was barely courteous throughout the 30-minute interview and neither accepted nor rejected an invitation to attend an RCBA General Meeting. This was diametrically opposed to the cordial and sincere reception which the City Police extended.

One of the suggestions submitted at the first interview is now being acted upon. At the request of the Sacramento Deputy Chief of Police, the entire section of the Police Academy Training Manual that deals with gay lifestyles is to be updated. In 1975, when it was formulated, information was only available from San Francisco. It deals with police response to gay-couple quarrels, incidents of public intimidation and verbal harassment, as well as community resources and reading lists to encourage ongoing consciousness-raising.

It is interesting to note that the local Training Academy is used, when space allows, by the **Sheriff's Department** and by the law enforcement agencies of seven counties surrounding Sacramento County.

A "ride-along program" is available to the community-at-large for any 10-hour shift. After one applies, there is a 2-week wait because the program is so popular. The P.D. wishes to encourage our participation.

Bar owners and managers are encouraged to invite the "cop-on-the-beat" into their bars to get acquainted. Under no circumstances will the officer accept a free drink of any kind and should not be proferred one by bartenders or patrons. This advice from the Deputy Chief is meant to help smooth over any altercations that might occur for which help from the P.D. is needed.

The first National Gay Business Faire will take place in New York City on 16-17 November: details are available from Norv Giles at 756-8120 or 758-2110. There will also be an official attempt made to form a national gay business alliance at that time. Tentative national goals are: financial support of/for National Gay Rights Bill; national demographic study on where gay buying power lies; and drafting of guidelines for setting up a gay business association to help other gay communities around the country to organize.

Mayor Phil Isenberg has been invited to attend the next General Meeting of RCBA on Thursday, November 8 at 7:30 p.m. at The Whistle Stop in Old Sacramento with no-host beer and wine as usual. This will be a community meeting with doctors, dentists, MCC, Dignity, NOW, MGW, the Way Station, and law enforcement officers invited for an opportunity to meet one another in a sociable atmosphere. Interested non-members may attend this General Meeting: RCBA means business.

ONE YEAR LATER...

Photo by Rebecca Gregg

Linda D. Birner, Publisher at the layout table.

Photo by Rebecca Gregg

Bill Spiller, Associate Editor, James K. Graham, Editor and J. Ann Wessel, Asociate Editor, compute reductions on a photograph.

Profile: Linda D. Birner

by Bill Spiller

She strikes you on first impression as an intensely business oriented woman. Look again and she's trying to cajole you into buying an ad or writing an article for **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** on a currently hot issue. You suddenly find yourself saying "yes" Linda smiles. You smile. You walk away pondering how this all transpired.

This is a typical interaction with Linda D. Birner, Publisher of **MOM...GUESS WHAT!**

Linda was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1949, and came to Sacramento in 1962. She worked her way through college doing graphic work for legislators Mervyn Dymally and Leona Egeland, and achieved her Master's degree in Psychology from Sacramento State University. Her work in photography, communication studies, and graphics earned her jobs doing brochures for legislators.

After working for a consulting firm here in Sacramento, Linda decided she enjoyed graphics and started her own business. Her need for space, coupled with her strong business and sales qualities and her independence, brought her where she is now: a respected community member.

Her list of credentials is more than impressive. Publisher of **MOM...GUESS WHAT!**, vice-president of the River City Business Association, Human Rights commissioner, member of the Sacramento Women's Network and a host of other organizations and movements.

"I'm active in the Woman's Movement, Equal Rights Amendment, National Organization for Women, and the National Women's Political Caucus. If we can't get equal rights for women and get the Equal Rights Amendment passed, I think it's going to be a long time before we get gay rights. We need to work on women's equality before we work on gay equality. All of it's related, through; I call it the Gay/Feminist Movement."

MOM...GUESS WHAT! started because there wasn't a gay voice in Sacramento. There wasn't any community." Linda is still not sure there is a gay community in Sacramento, per se. "**MOM...GUESS WHAT!** is working on that. **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** let's the community know what is going on with the various organizations in Sacramento. We keep people apprised of legislation. My goals are to get some discussion articles on issues that are of particular interest to gays and lesbians and develop some heavy-duty thinking."

Linda has some definite ideas on how to develop the community. "I'd like to get the women and men together somehow. Show them they can work and play together. Maybe by educating the men in the community what equal rights means to women and vice-versa.

Linda isn't all business though. Although she's been known to stay up "24 hours a day for three days" laying out the paper to meet the infamous deadline, she and her lover Zana Blazer find time to relax. "We love the ocean and Russian River areas. We hop into our motor home and take off, or we go to an afternoon movie. Our latest fascination is a 30-foot sailboat. We're getting together a few partners to go in with us. We're really excited about it."

To sum it up, Linda says, "There is a lot of satisfaction in working with **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** and knowing that we are a viable part of the Sacramento Community."

Linda's future goals for **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** include becoming financially solvent and not operating on a volunteer basis anymore. **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** needs more visibility—people need to know we are here and what we're about. I'm hoping a lot of straight people will be subscribing. There are articles that are of interest to all of us—gay and straight."

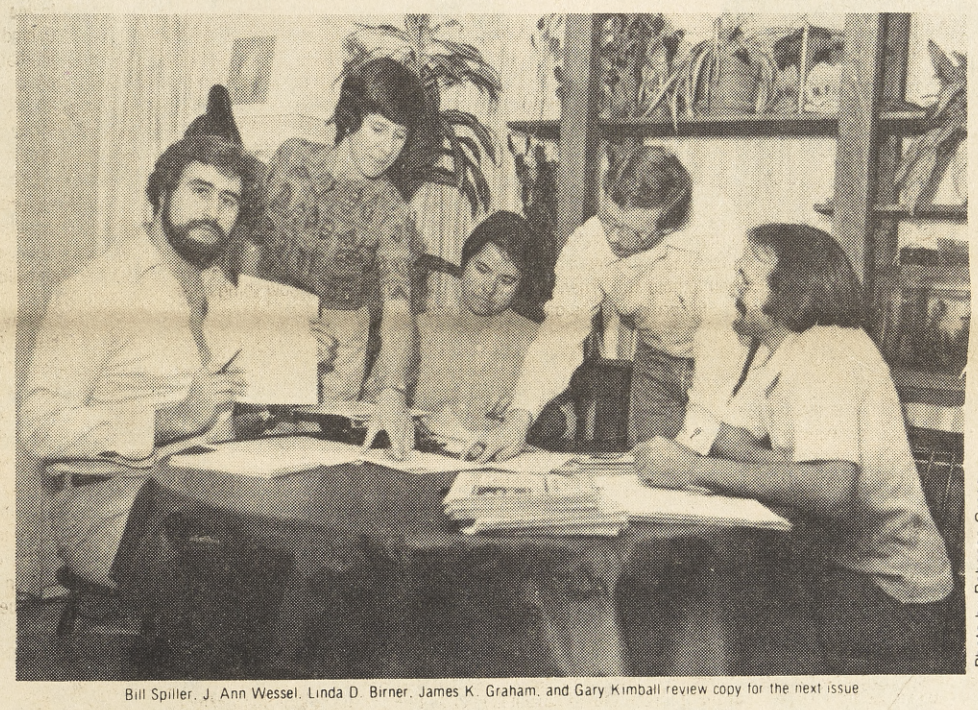


Photo by Rebecca Gregg

Bill Spiller, J. Ann Wessel, Linda D. Birner, James K. Graham, and Gary Kimball review copy for the next issue

Profile: James K. Graham

by Bill Spiller

James K. Graham, 30, was in on the ground floor when **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** began in November, 1978.

James, a native Californian, holds a Master's degree in English from Sacramento State University. He currently lives with his lover, Jason Lindo, in a downtown Sacramento apartment.

It was at the University of California, Davis, that James first got involved in gay politics, serving two years as president of the Gay Students Union. He later held the same position in the Gay Peoples Union at Sacramento State University.

Later, after graduation he wrote for the Suttertown News, mainly book reviews and gay-oriented articles.

In June of 1977, James and a few friends compiled and printed a mimeographed newsletter called "Gay Sacramento." This brought James and the need for a gay newspaper to the attention of Sacramento Valley gays.

While speaking on gay literature for the gay radio program Interface in June 1978, James met Linda Birner, who was thinking of starting a gay newspaper. The rest, of course, is history.

James brought his extensive education, background in gay politics, keen awareness of gay happenings, and penchant for the arts to **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** To James, being a source of information is not enough for **MOM...GUESS WHAT!**

"Anyone can put out an announcement sheet. What we also have to do is be informative, educational, and even challenging. We need to go beyond creating a community of business and social activities and talk about creating a community that includes the cultural and intellectual as well."

James sees one of **MOM...GUESS WHAT!**'s most important functions as helping create a gay community in Sacramento. "Depending on how you define a gay community, we probably don't have one," he states. "I don't think you can consciously build a community. You can't decide 'we are going to organize a community;' it has to happen, develop and come together. You can work to create the conditions, and I feel **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** is doing that."

James is constantly looking to improve and develop the content of the paper to include articles and features that are of interest to the community at large. "We ought not to develop into a national newspaper," he muses. "We will concentrate on doing as well as possible what we started out to do — serving Northern California, excluding the bay area, in providing news, features and the arts."

James and Jason enjoy quiet evenings at home with friends, talking, eating, and enjoying a good bottle of wine or two. "We like to spend time together and often that involves something to do with music." Quite often James and Jason can be seen at a local theatre production or concert.

"Friends of mine have said it is so easy to have lovers, but so difficult to have friends. If by lovers they mean people they go to bed with, maybe that's the way it is for them. I think that's part of the social life you create for yourself—friends are really important to me."

Photo by Rebecca Gregg

Gary Kimball, Financial Manager, working getting the bills to advertisers out.

Profile: J. Ann Wessel

by Bill Spiller

J. Ann Wessel, the newest addition to the editorial staff of MOM...GUESS WHAT!, is a woman that lives for the moment, a woman of the "here and now."

J. Ann, "Judi" to her friends, was born and raised in Fort Bragg, California, and has lived in Sacramento for the past 12 years. She lived in the bay area off and on for five years prior to living in Sacramento and admits her burning love for the ocean.

She and her lover of five years, Joyce Bright, have written a book titled, **I'm Right — You're Wrong** that is a parody of all self-help books written. Judi feels people oftentimes take themselves too seriously. "It's OK to feel bad once in a while," Judi says. "We're trying to show people they can laugh at themselves, that they don't always need a shrink for every problem that arises in everyday life. It's really a fun book."

Judi enjoys the theater in her spare time, along with many physical outdoor sports and adventures. She and Joyce travel to "The City" often to catch a play by Albee or Ionesco, or to enjoy the mellowness and an alfresco luncheon at the beach.

Judi's desire to become involved in gay politics and affairs brought her to MOM...GUESS WHAT! as Associate Editor — News. "Writing for MOM...GUESS WHAT! has gotten me involved in gay politics, which I've never been before," she confesses. "Working for MOM...GUESS WHAT! presents a different and challenging style of writing; faster writing. You don't always have time to sit, create, and develop characters — the characters are already there."

Judi feels MOM...GUESS WHAT! creates a feeling of unity, a feeling of a community or a bond. She's met new friends and become more in touch with people. "I used to be a loner, sitting in my study writing away—rather unaware."

Judi is currently writing a screenplay based on a short story she has written. But that's Judi — busy, creative, talented; a woman of the moment.

Profile: Bill Spiller

by J. Ann Wessel

As associate Editor-Features for **MOM...GUESS WHAT..!** Bill Spiller has contributed much of his time and energy to the paper since he came on staff in March, 1979.

Bill is a tall, soft-spoken man who loves music and plays the piano and the flute very well. He also enjoys the theatre, going to the mountains and the ocean, and does stained glass creations. Among his other interests, Bill raises, trains, and breeds birds for a hobby.

At 23 years old he has a B.A. degree from C.S.U.S. in communications. He has recently been accepted into the nursing program, which he will begin in February. His ambition lies in the medical field and he is looking forward pursuing this interest. However, while attending nursing school he still plans to maintain his position as Features Editor with the newspaper.

With a strong sense of responsibility and ambition, his writing and coordinating of feature articles, interviews, and theatre reviews have truly added to the quality of the newspaper. Other responsibilities include "Forum, "Talking-To," "Go For It," columns, fashion, and travel. As Features Editor, Bill also maintains close contact with writers, photographers, and illustrators.

Having lived in Sacramento all his life, Bill is very familiar with the gay community and takes a strong interest in its development. He is very personable and enjoys working with gay people, and supports them in working with each other.

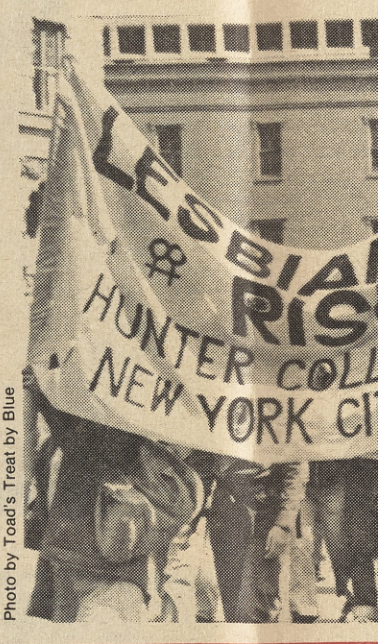
He feels **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** is an excellent vehicle that helps keep the gay community informed, allows gay people to participate, and supports us in our causes. He also feels **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** has a definite responsibility to report gay news, and to educate gay people in areas of everyday living which apply not only to gay people but to straight people as well. "The growth of **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** has been phenomenal since its creation in November, 1978. I am aspiring to develop, channel, and direct the contributors of **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** to make it the respected source of gay factual information in northern California," he said.

Bill's coworkers find him very conscientious in his willingness to carry out his duties with the newspaper. He has done more than his share of work, contributing largely to making **MOM...GUESS WHAT!** a viable, newsworthy, informative paper.

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTO

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue



by E.B. Hinkle

The Gay Freedom Train was a very important historical event. Not only was it a milestone in gay rights, but it was also the first time in history that the Amtrak San Francisco Zephyr made it to Chicago ahead of time. Along the way, we were thrilled and touched by the well-wishers that stood on the broken-down train platforms at all hours of the day or night to cheer us. We even viewed the heckling as a valuable experience; it reminded us why we were going to Washington, D.C.

One would think that taking the train cross-country would be a great opportunity to see the beauty of the U.S. Realize this: the trains drive through the parts of the country that no one wants to see, and the parts of the towns and cities where no one wants to live. Probably the most exciting view from the train was Three Mile Island as we sped through Pennsylvania.

After three days aboard the train, we experienced many changes. With the constant rattling and rocking of the train, we learned to waddle like ducks down the isles. We even learned to pour coffee into cups that wouldn't hold still. We learned that we were able to still be loving and affectionate with one another, even though we hadn't showered in three days. I never did master the art of washing my hair in the sink, especially those eeny weeny little sinks.

After Chicago, the train got behind schedule and kept that way. We were two hours late when we arrived in D.C. There to meet us were hundreds of cheering friends.

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Photo by E.B. Hinkle

WASHINGTON — Thousands of lesbians and gays came together Oct. 14 for the first National Lesbian and Gay March on Washington. Official estimates of the crowd range from 25,000 to 150,000. Some reports indicate there were more men than women, other reports indicated the reverse. Nevertheless, there were thousands of homosexuals representing each state of the union and several foreign countries attending the march.

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

"HOMOSEXUALITY is the only minority you can join overnight," quipped lesbian feminist Kate Millett.

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN vice-president Arlie Scott told the crows, "We're 20-million strong and we're not going to ask anymore, we're demanding, America, that you deal with us. You know us, America, you see us in your offices, in your schools, in your churches, in your Congress . . . We are everywhere. And we are moving from gay pride to gay politics, so be prepared."

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

Harvey Milk was remembered in several signs and banners. Others had much to say like, "We Are Everywhere," "No Gay Holocaust," "We Don't Need Laws For Us. Remove the Laws Against Us."

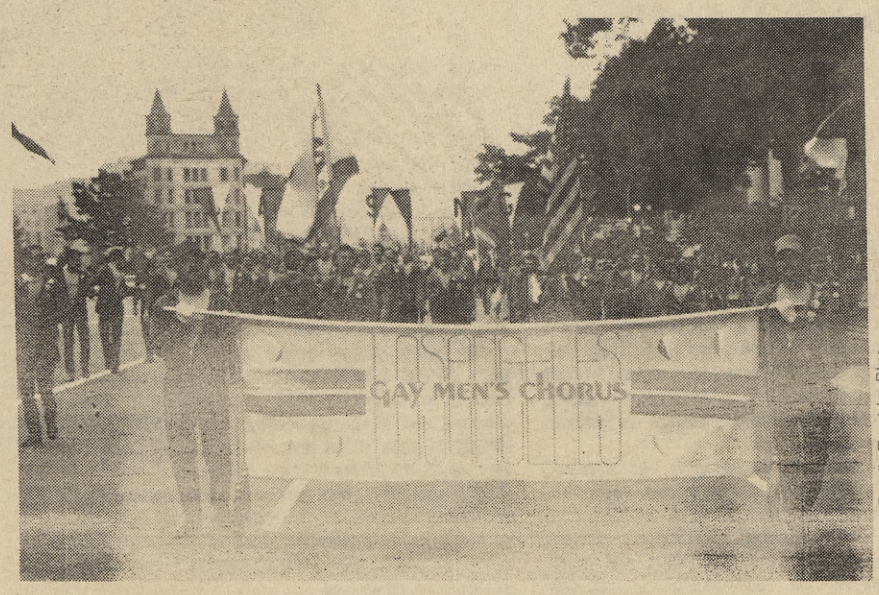

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

GTON FOR LESBIAN & GAY RIGHTS

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

by E.B. Hinkle

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From there we took Washington's marvelous subway, the Metro, to our hotel, the Harrington. All of us Gay Freedom Train Riders were living there, together for two days.

Several of the original "Amtrash" group, as we called ourselves, did not return with us from Washington, including leaders Rev. Troy Perry and lesbian comic Robin Tyler. Several flew back home, and several started their vacations from Washington. We felt the loss of new friends. We became even closer. We all passed around souvenirs to be autographed and we formed a mailing list so we can keep in touch for reunions.

On the last night of our trip together we had a big party. We held a Mr. and Ms. Amtrash contest. Eugene "Girlfriend" won Mr. Amtrash for being constantly drunk and throwing wine in a woman's face who walked through our car and ripped down our "Defend Your Rights" poster. Linda Blue won Ms. Amtrash for acting like she was constantly drunk.

When it was all over, we were glad we had the opportunity to meet such wonderful people as Phoenix, who 12 lesbian sisters from Santa Rosa had sent as a representative, or 47-year-old Dick Savage who just came out of the closet three years ago. He is a father of six. All these wonderful people, young and old, rich and poor, in all colors, male and female, became one big happy family. Knowing that we would see each other again at our reunion, we still said goodbye with tears in our eyes.

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

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Photo by E.B. Hinkle

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by Toad's Treat by Blue

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

"Anita Bryant is to Christianity what paint by numbers is to art," quipped lesbian comic Robin Tyler. She continued, "SOMEONE SAID that this gathering is about showing society that we are just as good as anybody else. Well, I say because of the oppression we have endured, we are better."

On the Freedom Train. . .

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

OAKLAND — All aboard the Amtrak Gay Freedom Train. Destination: Washington, D.C. So began the 50-hour whistle-stopping train ride across the continent. The first important stop was Sacramento where about 50 supporters cheered the train. In Nevada, where homosexuality is illegal and the ERA failed to be ratified, the Freedom Train pulled their window blinds in protest.

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

DENVER, COLORADO — The large turn out of supporters thrilled the riders, but they were more touched by the 28 local gays who turned up at 2:30 a.m. to greet the train in Lincoln, Neb., or the two gays who stood on the platform at 4 a.m. to cheer as the train pulled into Omaha.

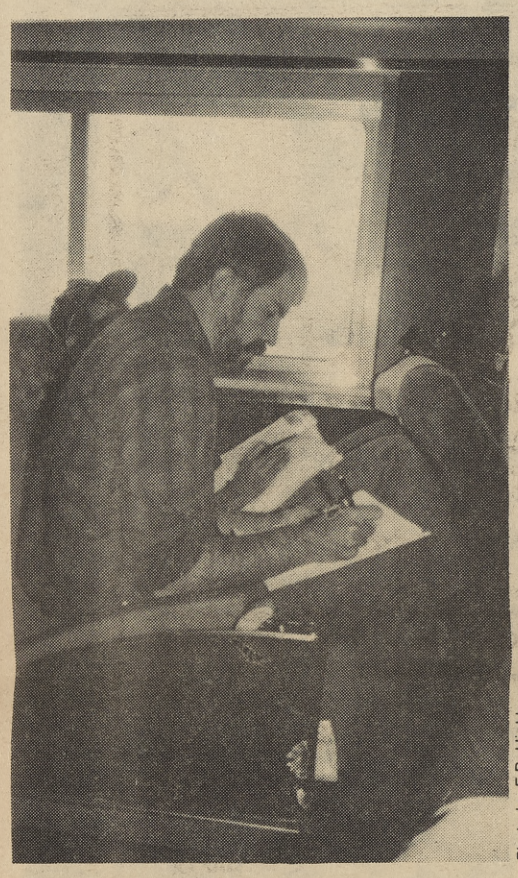


Photo by E.B. Hinkle

REV. TROY PERRY rode the Gay Freedom Train to Washington, D.C. He spoke at every stop. He will be interviewed in next month's MGW!

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

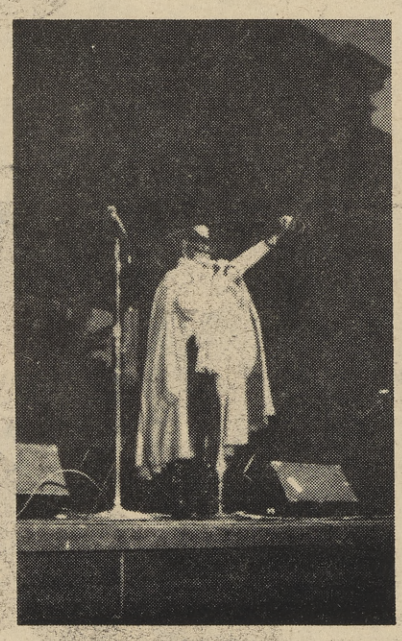
ROBIN TYLER, interviewed for next month's MGW!, interviewed for an "Amtrash" talent show with members of the musical group Conan (Con and John).

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

THE PRIVATE FREEDOM TRAIN CAR for the gay contingent provided a home for 62 gay men and seven lesbians for three days. 69 strangers rapidly became family as they ate, drank, and slept together.

The Concert. . .

SATURDAY NIGHT, Oct. 13, as darkness fell on Washington, D.C., thousands of gay men and lesbians burst in two applause as the Great American Yankee (GAY) Marching Band from Los Angeles and their baton twirling corp marched across the Washington Mall to the Sylvan Theatre, an outdoor amphitheatre below the Washington monument. So began the largest lesbian/gay concert in history. The band performed several numbers including "If My Friends Could See Me Now," "Ease On Down The Road," "Fun Fun Fun/Help Me Rhonda," and a new march written by conductor Wayne Love dedicated to Harvy Milk.



ACTIVIST FLORENCE KENNEDY: "There's good news and there's bad news. The good news is that you're telling the world you are everywhere and that you belong. Now that you're out of the closet, don't just stand there, do something. You're not just gay, you're taxpayers. You're not just lesbian, you're voters. You're not just gay and lesbian and homosexual, you are consumers. And you've got power. We will fight, we will sue, we will boycott, we will not take shit! We will force the politicians to respect us. 1980 is the time for the testicular approach: that means unlimited amounts of pressure in areas of great sensitivity. If they say we're not ready, we'll say, "Ready or not, here we come!"

Photo by E.B. Hinkle

THE L.A. GAY MEN'S CHORUS performed a vareity of their songs, including "Stout Hearted Man," "My Buddy," and "He/She that Leadeth Over Men Must be Just." 80 of the 160 member chorus were able to attend the Washington concert.

Art

Photographs by Eva Weiss . . .

reviewed by Pamela Garrett

The exhibition of recent handcolored photographs by New York artist Eva Weiss at Earhart's features landscapes of France, portraits of artists and art collectors, and a series entitled "At the Hotel Ozone."

Ms. Weiss has many strengths as an artist. She chooses interesting and frequently offbeat subjects, composes beautifully, and always leaves the viewer willing to see more of her work. But to my mind the most unique aspect of her talent is her extraordinary ability to enhance the mood of a subject or the atmosphere of a setting by handcoloring.

Her portraits of artist Natalie Magnar bear resemblance to the works of the 16th century Italian painter Caravaggio in both composition and the contrast of an opulent personality to an impoverished setting, but it is the handcoloring of these prints that transforms them into objects of almost magical fascination.

The four French landscapes are hauntingly beautiful. My favorite is the print honored in the February issue of **Ms.** magazine.

The most thematically provocative works in the show are the series of prints entitled "At the Hotel Ozone." They are carefully composed, beautifully colored images of young women in lacy dresses, hats and gloves, sitting in a beautifully maintained garden. The young women's faces reveal alarm, disdain, or smug self-satisfaction. The title of the series refers to an avant-garde film in which women maintain total sovereignty over an area and either kill or maim any males unfortunate enough to enter their territory.

Earharts is located at 16th and S Streets, and is open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Travel

London in January

by Jim Straukamp

When I first thought of writing an occasional column on travel, I had just returned from taking a group to Italy and myself through the Greek Islands and Turkey. Then it seemed that Eastern Mediterranean would be a good place to begin. Now that the time has arrived, it seems better to talk about what is on my mind right now—London in January. This will be my third year of taking a group to a place where I lived for many years. What follows in this article, and others in the future, will be some personal ideas on travel to places familiar to me.

Why London in January, of all times? A sensible question. The main reason is that the University has an intersemester break which makes a travel study program possible at that time. But there are some other positive reasons to justify a trip at such a time to such a place.

London's weather is really no colder than here, nor much wetter. Two years ago it was crisp (we wore warm clothes) with blue skies and sun every day. Only one afternoon did it rain. Last January was a record cold everywhere, including England. But in London there are no banks of snow to negotiate and slush is limited to an occasional street and alley.

The West End theatres are at their best during the winter months, since the plays and musicals are not scheduled with an eye to the tourists.

The Royal Opera and Ballet are in the midst of their season; in the summer they schedule no performances. Also, you can sample the delightful world of Christmas Pantomine.

Let me pause a moment on this particularly English entertainment. Pantomime originally was a silent drama. In 1818 an Englishman introduced speaking parts, later elaborated by the inclusion of music and songs. During the Victorian Age Pantomime reached its present form, a mixture of music hall, dancing, and about all pageant. "Role reversal" became traditional; for example, Peter Pan was always played by a girl. Last year at the Palladium, Aladdin was a female actress and his mother, the star of the show, was England's most famous female impersonator, Danny Larue. Comedy, costumes (Danny wore at least 20 show-stopping gowns) and extravagance. Nearly every city, town, and village in the Kingdom features some such performance during December and January.

During January the number of tourists is at a minimum. The whole world always seems to be in London. But during this month it is mainly the residents, which makes museum-viewing, play-watching and sight-seeing much more relaxed.

Whatever time of the year you visit London, you will be amazed at how close it is to the principal centers of English history and art. This makes it much easier for the traveller. I believe that the fewer times you must pack your belongings and move to another city, the better the touring. In London you can fully realize this philosophy.

In one easy day you can see Stonehenge, the Gothic magnificence of salisbury cathedral, and in Winchester imagine King Arthur's knights seated at the "table round." On another day you may make a pilgrimage to Canterbury. In one day you can see Windsor Castle and Hampton Court, and still be back in London for supper and the theatre. Cambridge or Oxford is easily seen in a single day.

Even without these trips outside the city, there is more than enough to satiate the most eager culture-hunting, disco-dancing, pub-hopping tourist. Winter or summer, London and its environs are always fulfilling.

Butte County Group Will Work for AB1 Correction

by Stephen C. Klein

The Lesbian/Gay Cause of Butte County (LGCBC) has announced its activities program. After a brainstorming session held in Chico on October 11, the group decided to make a major push for the passage of AB1 its first priority. Members will be seeking information on the bill and will share this with both gay and non-gay outlets in Butte County. A letter-writing effort and speaking engagments will be part of the program.

The group agreed to join with gay representatives from the Redding area at a meeting with an aide to Assemblymember Stan Statham. Statham (Rep.—Redding) represents the First Assembly District, and is a member of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, which must consider AB1 before it goes to a full vote in the Assembly. Statham has indicated his opposition to the bill in response to constituents' letters requesting his support.

LGCBC also determined that activities involved with information and referral would be a long-term priority. The Chico Legal Information Center has contacted the group regarding issues of concern to gay people in Butte County. Both will work together to share information and resources.

The Lesbian and Gay Cause of Butte County meets monthly in members' homes, with special committee meetings when necessary. For information about dates, time, and places, please write to LGCBC, Box 4263, Chico, 95927.

Meet Judge Stephen Lachs at CHRA Benefit

On Friday, November 30, at 5:30 p.m., California Human Rights Advocates will introduce the honorable Stephen M. Lachs, judge of the Superior Court of Los Angeles and the first openly gay judge in the country.

A cocktail party at The Lobby restaurant at 1117 11th Street, Sacramento, will be a fundraiser to benefit CHRA. Hours for the party are 5:30-8; tickets are $10 and can be purchased at the door or in advance by mailing a self-addressed envelope to CHRA, 1107 Ninth Street, Suite 1019, Sacramento, CA 95814.

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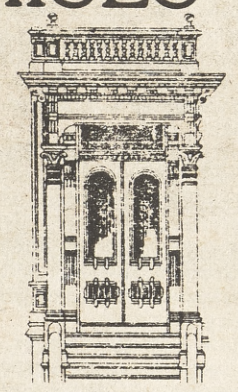

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Gay and Ethnic: A Panel Discussion

Moderated by James K. Graham, Editor

JKG: This is a discussion with people from various ethnic groups about their experiences as ethnic people in the gay community. I think that this should be very enlightening for those of us who as anglos tend to think of ourselves as the only race. This attitude perhaps prevails throughout the gay community and it's one of the things we want to discuss.

Each of the panelists will introduce him or herself and his/her ethnic background, then we'll talk about some of the attitudes in each of their cultures about homosexuality, talk a little more about their experiences as gay ethnic people, and close with a short discussion on what people of various ethnic backgrounds have to contribute to the gay community.

JASON: I was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, and I am actually four or five ethnic groups. My mother is Hawaiian-Chinese, and my father is Portuguese, Spanish, and French. I consider myself mainly Hawaiian; I was brought up in a Hawaiian home with Hawaiian cultural values.

I have found in the year and a half that I've lived in California, that there are a lot of differences — not only in how I used to relate to the gay world in Hawaii as opposed to here, but also in regard to the majority population and their relationships to me. There are very few Polynesians in California or on the mainland as a whole, and very little is really known about our lifestyle or about our values. I'd like to see that change.

SHEILA: I basically consider myself Puerto Rican, although I am a mixture. I grew up in San Francisco; I've now been living in the Sacramento area for about three years.

My attitude about being gay and ethnic has changed since I moved from San Francisco to Sacramento, because I found that I didn't know where to go to find people like myself. I began to find that there were a lot of prejudices against Latina women; it was an unusual experience for me because I was not used to that, being from San Francisco where there are a lot of mixes of people.

B.C.: I'm a Native American. I was born on a reservation located in California, at Covelo. I find that everyone relates to me as Spanish-American, which I'm not, and that being gay is just as hard as being Native American.

XAVIER: I'm Chicano. I was born in Corpus Christi, Texas, and came to California in 1978. I found that the attitude toward gay people in Texas, generally, is very oppressive. I had lived in California previously, and I'd experienced that it was much different — there was a more open, liberal attitude toward different lifestyles in California, so I decided to come out here instead of staying where that kind of attitude toward gays prevailed.

GREG: I'm a native Californian, raised in Sacramento. I'm a black male gay, and I don't see that many negative social attitudes among black males as far as being gay goes. Not many black people in general are out of their closets, and that's an attitude in certain social levels and cliques and so on.

JEANETTE: I'm a black lesbian. I was born in Alabama and moved to California when I was very young. I've experienced discrimination in a number of areas all of my life.

Until approximately six months ago, I had never given much thought to whether I considered myself first ethnic or gay. That question was asked of me in a class. I was doing a speaking engagement and one of the people asked me that.

I really didn't know how to answer at the time. I knew that being gay was primary to me because of the relationship I was in at the time and because my focus was becoming primarily on gay issues and lifestyles.

Since that time, I've thought a lot about it, and I've realized that being black and being gay is sort of like double jeopardy. I don't relate to discrimination any differently whether it's gay or it's racial. I know that it does exist, and I feel that as a result of being both black and gay I have to be more aware of myself and deal with myself, for myself, on my own terms.

JKG: Now I'd like to get into talking about the different cultures' attitudes toward homosexuality. I think that that has a lot to do with the way people relate to their sexual orientation and often those of us who are in the white majority seem to think that the way our northern European Christian upbringing relates to homosexuality is the way it's done everywhere in the world. I think we can explore a little how that may not be true.

JASON: In Hawaiian and Polynesian culture, the traditional attitude prior to the coming of the missionaries was radically different than the view that Western society held in regard to homosexuality.

First of all, in no Polynesian language is there a word for a male or a female homosexual. There's no word for lesbian, there's no word for homosexual or gay; the only word we have is for someone who cross-dresses.

In our culture, relationships between members of the same sex, prior to the coming of the missionaries, was thought of as totally natural and normal, and it was a valid alternative to a married heterosexual life.

As far as cross-dressing goes, if a man or a woman decided to take on the role of the opposite sex in the culture, they were highly respected and encouraged to do so. Men who cross-dressed and for all purposes became women were called "mahu." In Hawaiian culture they were usually given high rank and placed in the service of the high priests in the temples. Women who cross-dressed very often became very famous warriors and war chiefs.

Once the missionaries came, the Hawaiian value system changed radically. We were taught that homosexuality, and, in particular, cross-dressing and an attitude of tolerence, were wrong and against the laws of God. We were also taught that some other cultural values, such as infanticide and polygamy and incestuous relationships were also bad. So our entire value system was changed and the Christian value system was superimposed on us.

I was brought up with a mixture of Christian values and Hawaiian values. When I came out to my parents, my mother had a hard time dealing with my homosexuality. Her family is a very traditional Hawaiian family and they still have remembrances of homosexuality being something positive and something very cultural. But it's been so whitewashed that she's not really sure what the cultural stance is. A lot of the Christian values that she has really caused a lot of conflict in her.

A lot of young gays in Hawaii have a lot of problems coming out now. We, like the Native Americans, are trying to recapture some of our heritage before it's totally gone, and in looking back we see that our people really dealt with homosexuality in a sane fashion. But the culture we have to deal with now, which is mainly white, non-Hawaiian, does not, and so it puts us in a very peculiar position: we know we can't turn back the clock, and yet we know that as gay people and as Hawaiians we have some rights that are being denied us.

What modern Hawaiians of my generation and the generations to come are going to do, I really can't say. All I can say now is that we're angry, we want our rights, and we want our traditions, as Hawaiians and also as gay people.

SHEILA: As a Puerto Rican, I see myself as being pre-Columbian, and by that I mean that before the Spaniards came we were once pure Indian. The tribe that I came from was Tiano. Before that time, in the Indian Culture, homosexuality was an OK thing. It wasn't something that was encouraged, but it wasn't put down, either.

I've been asked if homosexuality is a white man's perversion, and I say to my machismo Third-World leaders that it is not. I think that, if anything, they should look at their own culture and see that **their** culture has been bastardized.

B.C.: In my culture, homosexuality is very accepted. With my people I feel really at home, and there are a lot of gay Indians there on the reservation and they're all accepted. It's treated like everything else; you know, like a heterosexual would be treated. It's just treated equal and it's really great.

I feel that Indian people are a close-knit people, and they care about each other. Once I was put down by a bunch of friends of mine, and my brother came in and he said, "Look, it's OK to be gay and your family won't turn against you." He was the first one to know, and then my whole family accepted my girlfriend and myself. It's really great, because I can go home and feel at home.

JKG: You're talking about the attitude that prevails on the reservation. How about off the reservation, where you're dealing with the American Indian community that has to exist in the larger community? Do you find negative influences about the attitudes toward homosexuality?

B.C.: Oh, yeah. I wouldn't tell my friends in the urban area that I was gay, because I'd be scared of what might happen. In my family I feel OK, and I know that within the different tribes of Indians it's OK, but when you all get together, it's a totally different thing.

XAVIER: As a Chicano, it's my experience that being gay is just totally unaccepted. It's very machismo-oriented, but at the same time, I feel that there is a movement within the Chicano population to unite, to work together, and a lot is being done to accept the Chicana woman and to attribute positive contributions to her. I think, though, that there are just as many sensitive, alert, educated, gay Chicanos who don't contribute to the movement because of the attitudes, and then again there are some who do come out. But I still feel that there is a large number of them who don't — they just stay in the closet, because they realize, with their orientation, that it's just not done. They're just ostracized from their families.

JKG: You said it's the machismo attitude that does this — is there also religious bias there? And also, you mentioned the family — maybe you could talk a bit more about how it all fits together.

XAVIER: I think it's not religion so much anymore, because the Chicano community is still religious but they don't integrate it so much into their lifestyles anymore. A lot of the young Chicanos, the Chicano movement, are getting away from the Church. It's machismo, the dominant male influence in the family more than the Church — I think so, anyway, especially with the young Chicanos.

GREG: Speaking from an Afro-American point-of-view as far as religion goes, I would have to say, just from my own personal experience, that religious influences are not that strong as far as being gay is concerned. I told my mother, and feel that telling one member of your family is good, and it's accepted. I always have been religious and most people in my family are. It seemed like there was a hole in my life before I accepted that I was gay, a kind of dark spot. Then I accepted being gay, and now I'm more religious and my values toward religion have improved. I feel that accepting my being gay has improved me and my lifestyle, and I would hope for the chance for all black gays. But that's a problem, because not many blacks, men or women, are out of the closet. In my personal experience, I'm known and accepted by my family — they didn't just say to pack my bags and move to another state, you know. I feel better and more at ease about everything.

JEANETTE: I've experienced a mixture of feelings, acceptance and non-acceptance, in the black community at large in relation to homosexuality.

In my own family, it's a very unaccepted thing, not so much because of blackness as because of religion. My father is a Pentecostal minister — if you can comprehend that — and it's just not OK and it's never going to be OK. around many gay people who have told their families and talked to other black people about being gay and feel very accepted and feel that it's an OK thing.

I think that there's still a lot of value, a lot of emphasis, placed on marriage and family and children in the black community. Many black people feel that we have to go on reproducing and having children and having nuclear families that are fantastic, huge, and all that so that we can continue, hopefully, to be heard as a people.

I'm talking about my experiences, and I don't know a lot of gay people, but the people that I do know, many of them, feel that they're very accepted.

JKG: What we've done so far is explore some of the cultural attitudes in our panelists' backgrounds towards homosexuality. I'd like now to switch the focus to our panelists' experiences as gay ethnic people in the gay world, and the attitudes that they've experiences there.

XAVIER: It always strikes me funny that I rarely see a couple made up of, say, two blacks, two Asians, or two Chicanos. I say to myself, "Is it that ethnics see the masculine image only in white people, and not in themselves?" I think, as an ethnic group member, that ethnic people should be aware of why this is probably happening.

JKG: Would you say that that's a kind of acceptance of a racist attitude?

XAVIER: Exactly, yeah.

JKG: Is it maybe also a racist attitude that causes white gay men to choose ethnic gay men as their lovers or objects of their affection? Is there some kind of racism involved there, do you think?

XAVIER: I would have to say probably, but not in all cases. What I would like to see happen is for ethnic groups to see that image in themselves and not attribute it to another group.

SHEILA: I've thought about that same subject quite a bit, especially recently, and I've thought, "How come I'm always in these relationships with white women?" And I'm wondering about myself and how I identify myself.

When I've been involved in some of my relationships with white women, it's been very heavy for me to experience that some of the women I have been with have been racist. It's such a shock to me — I wonder now, if I'm a woman, and if I'm a woman of color, and if I'm a gay woman, what are the possibilities of having an equal relationship with anyone other than a gay woman of color?

JEANETTE: I've been aware of mixed coupling from the time I've been involved with gay people and the gay community. My observation has been, as Greg mentioned earlier, that there are many closeted black people and I'm sure that's true of many ethnic people. Sometimes it seems like your options aren't too fantastic. I won't say that it's settling for second best or anything like that, but it's just that when it comes to looking for someone to relate to on an intimate level, I don't feel like I have the rest of my life to find that person. I know that I've been with people because they cared about me and they were available and I could care about them, and I haven't said, "Well, you're not my color or you're not my race, so I don't want to be with you." I think that's a big part of it also.

GREG: I'd just like to add that I personally think you have to know what your limits are and what you want to get involved in, and exclude color. If you think that you want to get with this particular ethnic gay person because they're known to do this or that, you know, you're kind of oppressing yourself within the minority of being gay, on a racial level. You just have to have an open mind and accept people just as they are, based on the individual. You have your own self-pride, and what you see out there is based on that.

JASON: I think the word 'self-pride' for me is the key word. Hawaiians in Hawaii are at the lowest point on the social and economic scale, and as long as I can remember, going through 13 years of private schools, I was never once given a positive role model from my own culture, even a heterosexual role model.

Most Hawaiians, I think, feel that way. We're shown blond Christs if we're Christian, and beautiful blond-haired men and women running down on the beaches. When you come out into the gay world in Hawaii you're pretty much limited to the bars, and the majority of the men that come to the bars that are eligible and want to go out with you ae men coming from the mainland looking for one ideal. They're looking for the beautiful, mystic, swarthy-complexioned Polynesian or Asian beauty that they see on the travel posters that is nice and passive and will sort of create a fantasy for them.

Gay people in Hawaii are really forced to fit into that. Society tells us that whites are better and that's the social ideal to strive for. I remember when I first came out, when I was 16, I peroxided by hair and I looked absolutely ridiculous. The rest of my body had dark, curly hair and my head was totally blond, but I looked in the mirror and said, "That's the ideal I want."

When you go and start meeting people, you find out that they don't perceive your culture the way that you do, and while they like you for the color of your skin, you have the also fit into their idea of what that skin color designates. I think it's changing a lot for Hawaiian gays now, as we're getting some ethnic pride and some gay awareness. And now we relate to people of other races and other skin colors as individuals rather than as stereotypes.

But it's still a great problem in Hawaii. I read an **Advocate** article recently on Hawaii, and all it showed was blond-haired surfers playing volleyball on the beach and telling how beautiful the black-haired Hawaiians were. But as far as going into the Hawaiian culture or breaking any of the stereotypes, I didn't see that. I really am discouraged sometimes at some of the stereotypes about ethnic minorities within the gay community.

B.C.: As I was coming out of the closet, I was going for the white female, because it showed status and power, and that's what I wanted, and that's what I got.

And it wasn't until later I figured out that they were using me as I was using them. I was still lower than them, and it really made me mad. This one girlfriend that I had, she was always on the sidewalk and I was in the gutter. I really got tired of that.

Then I said, "Hey, I don't need to be with a white person to be up there." I'm not putting down white people; there's a lot of beautiful white people out there. Now I'm with a Hispanic woman and I feel great. I'm up there, and she makes me feel up there. I don't have to have the white power behind me to feel up there.

JEANETTE: Whether or not I or any black person or any person of color gets into a relationship with a non-ethnic person, we still experience within the gay community a lot of racism, a lot of prejudice, and it doesn't feel good.

I think for me it feels even worse coming from gay people, because gay people know what it's like being discriminated against. They know what it is. I just feel like there isn't room for it, and it hurts me because I don't understand why people are discriminated against themselves and choose to do it to other people.

JKG: Maybe what we can do now, in addition to looking at how ethnic people can contribute to the gay community, is to look at how those contributions can help overcome racism. I think that B.C. touched on that when she talked about recognizing your own value — that it doesn't take a white person to put you up there. That's the first step — how can it be communicated to everyone in the community?

XAVIER: Well, first of all, James, I think that the gay ethnic community should make an effort to join some kind of speakers bureau and when a person is needed to go speak before a group, they should include some ethnic gay people to convey to the group that it's not exclusively a gay white world, that it's a mixture; and that we make an effort not to do what society at large does to us — not to discriminate.

JASON: I think another way that would be very important in conveying the real beauty of our own ethnic traditions and also making aware, in a very non-painful way, the white community at large, gay or heterosexual, is for gay people not to deny their own ethnic traditions.

A lot of times when gay people of color get into a relationship with someone who's not of their ethnic group or move to another city or away from their ethnic group, they stop practicing the traditions they were brought up with. They're beautiful traditions, and they're good traditions, and they're traditions that have given us pride for the majority of our formative years.

I think that gay people, when they do get away from their ethnic groups, should hold on even more tenaciously to those traditions and those customs, and explain them and talk about them and share them with people not only of the white community but also of other ethnic groups. That way, we can really show in a social and loving way the beauty and the pride we have in each other as gay people of color.

SHEILA: I feel that what I contribute to the gay community is my ethnic heritage. I also consider myself a feminist, and often I feel that other people try to force me to take a position on who I should fight for — should I fight for feminism or for gay rights or for third world causes?

Well, I feel that I should fight for all three. I feel equally oppressed for all these things and I don't see how any one group can think that they're more oppressed than another group. Oppression is just oppression.

I know how it feels to be oppressed as a lesbian, and I know how it feels to be oppressed because of the color of my skin, and I know how it feels to be oppressed as a woman, and if you can understand those things on one level, then you can understand them on all three. I think that's what I'd like to contribute to the gay community.

JKG: So, in essence, what we're getting at is how we have to see how all oppressions are connected. And that all oppressed peoples can work together rather than working against each other.

Directors of the George Sand Community Benefit Fund gather around the Yamaha Moped, 1st prize in the 3rd Annual fundraiser raffle. Left to Right: Erni Brown (kneeling), Rev. Jane Taylor-Phykitt, Bobbette Hoyos, Rafael Benitez, Walter Coburn, W. Roy Brinsom, Donna Felio (Chairperson), Albert Freeman, and Mike Walker. (Photo by Steve Coulam).

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Speakers Bureau

The Sacramento Valley Gay Speakers Bureau plans to use its outreach network to educate school counselors on gay issues. The Speakers Bureau is soliciting the input of mental health professionals to put together an educational package that speakers can present to school counselors.

Any mental health professionals or other interested people are invited to share their input. The first meeting will be held at 653 El Dorado Way at 7:30 p.m. on November 4. Call Dan Rudd at 457-6840 or 452-8933 if you have any questions.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

PERSONALLY. . .
by J. Ann Wessel

Rub-A-Dub-Dub

The other evening a friend called to tell me she couldn't understand why she was experiencing feelings of alienation. She proceeded to tell me her lesbian friends have been going to the baths recently. She said she couldn't cope with this promiscuous behavior, and didn't know why anyone would choose to live a life of debauchery. I thanked her for sharing and hung up the phone.

Well, that was just enough to spark my interest. I called her friends and asked if I could join them that night at the baths. They were very receptive so off we went to the house of ill-repute.

I entered the building, a little nervous, not knowing what to expect; paid my money and at the sound of a buzzer opened another door. There I was surrounded by naked bodies.

I found the locker assigned to me, and changed my clothes. Or rather I took my clothes off and wrapped a towel around my body. I was then taken on a tour of the building by my friends. The building is very large, with enough to keep one occupied for several hours.

I checked out the swimming pool, sauna, pinball machines, T.V. room, weightlifting room (for those of you who are into pumping iron), orgy room, and hot tub. There is even a movie room, although I might add they do not show films like "The Return of Lassie," or "I Love Lucy" reruns.

After the tour we decided to go swimming. (Actually I was tired of trying to hold my towel on, and wanted to take it off.) I stood on the edge of the pool, and let the towel drop to my feet. There I stood in my no-nonsense nudity. I was fully aware that there were eyes on me. I decided to use that opportunity to get in touch with what ever fears I might have about being naked-I did, and then dove in.

After swimming a few laps I got out of the pool. By this time I was feeling pretty brave so I picked up my towel, flung it over my shoulder, and off we went to the hot tub.

Walking to the hot tub, with my towel covering only one half of my anatomy, I passed several other nude bodies, and was suprised to discover I wasn't even being stared at. (Nakedness is very Freudian.)

I was also suprised to notice that the feeling of desperation I usually experience in a bar was not to be present at the baths. At first I thought maybe everyone just had their acts together. However...being nude no one has much of an act to keep together.

When I told a few of my lesbian friends about my new and exciting experience, many of them asked me how I was treated by the men. I suppose a few were surprised when I told them the men were very friendly and polite. As a matter of fact I met quite a few men with whom I engaged in social intercourse during the events of the the evening: in the sauna, swimming pool, hot tub, etc. I was charmed.

Besides having a very delightful evening at the baths I found it extremely relaxing. After spending time in the sauna and hot tub, and feeling a great deal of pleasure in having completed my mission, I went home and slept like a baby.

So for those of you who are feeling alienated you might want to venture out and spend an evening at the baths. Become liberated. Happy splashing!

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Rita Mae Brown Visits Sacto Area

by Joyce Bright

Rita Mae Brown was in town, folks! Feminist and writer, humorist and gadfly, Brown is as dynamic in person as she is in her books. For those Lesbians who like what they are, who find joy in living and are challenged by the society in which they live, Brown's visit to the Sacramento area was the event of last month.

She appeared first at Freeborn Hall in Davis, Thursday night, Oct. 18th. She spoke briefly of being a "professional Lesbian," which is "dreary as a political stance, but fun as a private activity." Brown teased the heterosexuals in the audience. They had her "deepest sympathy."

The majority of the lecture was devoted to the need to be who we are. Homosexuals are one of the few oppressed people who can lie about themselves. This creates for gays a feeling of ambivalence if not self-hatred. "The act of loving is what makes us human, and we hide it, lie about it. Lying is the most devastating thing we can do." If we go around lying about who we are, we end up feeling contempt for those people we have fooled, and ultimately contempt for ourselves.

Using the artist as a metaphor, Brown explored the attitudes of the society we live in, and the need to "be yourself" despite the lack of support in society. As with most of us, the artist can not expect fame or money; the reward is the activity itself. But if we are doing something that comes from within, expressing ourselves honestly, then we can expect to be happy.

To reach that place we must give up being "approval junkies." People may not take you seriously if you don't have a lot of money. And they may not like you if you don't conform to their expectations. But to be happy those forms of outside approval must be relinquished.

Art reveals emotion and beauty. "The purpose of art is to reveal us to ourselves. It is an experience capable of altering the beholder. If there are enough beholders with a common experience you get a community."

Separation doesn't work. The separatist "shrinks into a position of moral superiority" that is the anthithesis of what community is all about.

At the end of the lecture we were urged to ask ourselves "what's the one thing you want to change about the world, and to change in yourselves?" Do it now! Don't look for the answers: Be the answer!

The lecture at State University on October 20 was a fund raiser for the Equal Rights Amendment. It was concerned with women and success; the myths about women and success, and our own ambivalence toward success.

The establishment myth is that a woman can't balance a career and home. The anti-establishment says you can't be Earth Mother and Chairman Mao too. The establishment says men won't work for women. The anti-establishment says women won't work for women. Both assure us that women fear success. Brown says there is some truth in that: "We fear the unknown."

People in power fear successful women. More damaging is that women fear successful women, and find ways to tear each other down. We expect, for example, Billy Jean King to give all her money to feminist causes, sign a petition about her abortion, and then sign another one about her Lesbianism. (King is happily married and there is no reason to suppose she's a Lesbian.) We damn her for not fullfilling our expectations about what she ought to do rather than support her in being the leader she is.

Or we ask questions that avoid the issue. "Should a woman work in the system or outside of it?" Brown says only a "flaming asshole" would ask a question like that. You can't expect a woman of fifty who is a college professor to suddenly chuck her career, don a work-shirt and boots, "the sorority uniform," and fight for the "cause." Who would support her?

Indeed, feminism is a largely middle-class movement in which we think so little of ourselves that we don't even pay each other for our labor. The poor can't afford us.

We concentrate on negatives, shouting the moral superiority of being victims. "Being a victim makes you weak, not moral." Try something positive, like sports. "Tough little girls are hard to step on."

Most of all we need faith in ourselves, the kind of faith that allows us to put our money where are mouths are. When you have enough confidence in yourself to see your own importance then you begin to see the importance of others. We are large enough, big enough to include differences, because we are all working for the same goal.

"Success is to finish what is started; it is the measurement of pretention to achievement." It is as much fun as some of us suspected. And there is so much to be done, for each of us to do, that each of us can be successful.

Finally, as Brown's mother once told her, "if you want to be successful, watch the donut, not the hole."

Both of Brown's lectures were met with a standing ovation. She reminded us about who we are, something of which we sometimes need reminding. She's a fine artist, and a very successful woman.

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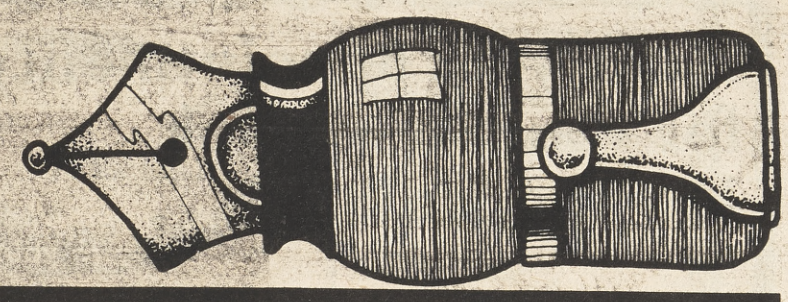

MGW welcomes letters to "Write". If at all possible, your letters should be typed and double-spaced. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters should be addressed to "Write", MGW Box 8170, Sacramento, CA 95818 and received by the 20th.

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you because I am greatly concerned with the treatment that I have received from a business that caters to, and is supported solely by, members of Sacramento's gay community. Moreover, many other members of the gay community have expressed to me incidents of similar treatment. I, and the others, feel the issue is extremely important and therefore wish to bring it to public attention.

On the night of August 22nd I was dancing at the Upstairs/Downstairs. My partner and I were the only ones on the dance floor at the time. Halfway through the dance we were approached by a black man who started dancing inbetween us. I asked him to leave because he was interfering with my dancing. He refused. When I repeated my request he, with no physical provocation from me, hit me in the jaw with a drink that he was holding. I backed off and he came at me with a broken glass. After a short scuffle he ran out of the place by it's only exit, right pass the doorman. No effort was made to stop him, or detain him until the police could arrive.

His blow with the galss was severe enough to require 20 stiches in my jaw and lower neck. One cut missed my jugular vein by only a ¼ of an inch according to Dr. Harvey Thompson.

Three days later I approached the manager of the Up/Down, whom I know only as Sean, and asked him what kind of insurance coverage they had and how I could submit a claim. He told me that the incident was "between you and the guy who hit you and of no concern of the Upstairs/Downstairs."

The hospital costs so far have come to a little under a $100. While the owners have had several occasions to ask about my health or to offer help with the medical bills incurred from injuries inflicted by another patron of theirs', both have gone out of their way to ignore my very presence.

My anger arises because I know from discussions with other members of the gay community that this lack of concern for patrons of the Up/Down is not an isolated incident.

While the Up/Down and it's sister enterprises, most notably the Incredible Edible, thrive off gay patronage they apparently have little respect or concern for the safety or welfare of their customers. This callous attitude is disheartening and Sacramento gays should not be forced to "put up with it" merely because of the lack of competition that the Up/Down corporation has. Rather than helping me up off the floor, you could be the next victim.

I've attached copies of my unpaid medical bills to this letter as verification of my claim. I am asking other people who have been the object of violence in and around the Upstairs/Downstairs to document their incidents so we can present an organized gay-citizens complaint to the seemingly uncaring owners of the Upstairs/Downstairs.

Breen Mullins
Danial W. March
Margo Porras
Bill Lemen
Tom L. Blasdel

MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .! has received the following letter from the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club:

Once again the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club has the pleasure to extend wishes for a Merry Christmas! It may seem a little early for such greetings, but the members of the Valley Knights have already been planning and working for the third consecutive annual Christmas show for the benefit of the George Sand Benefit Fund Inc. Our goal this year is to raise $4,000.

Again, the fundraising will be a community-wide, co-operative affair. Individuals, and religious, social, political and business organizations are invited to participate in the fundraising effort, and to take part in the variety show. This year's theme is "Christmas Knights '79." Also, this year's printed program will be a directory of supporting businesses and organizations.

Raffle tickets for $1 are being sold at bars, restaurants, and many other locations; first prize is a moped bike, retail value of $420 and second prize is a water bed, retail value $180. In addition, there will be many fine door prizes.

This year's benefit will be held at the Tuesday Club, 2722 L Street, Sacramento (across the street from historical Sutter's Fort), on Saturday, December 8, at 8 p.m. There will be a no-host bar and an outstanding live band. Admission donation is $4 in advance, and $7 at the door.

For more information, please write to the Valley Knights at P.O. Box 8163, Sacramento 95818, or call Paul (916) 371-3758, or Tony (916) 486-8176.

The Valley Knights M.C. and many other organizations and individuals are continuing to plan and work for this year's benefit Christmas show, to provide the George Sand Benefit Fund with much needed finances, and to provide you with an evening of fun and entertainment.

See you, December 8, at 8 p.m. And, once again, have a Merry Christmas!

Paul Shepherd, President
Valley Knights M.C.

The following is a letter that was mailed to ARCO from one of our readers;

October 20, 1979

ARCO Petroleum Products Company
Division of Atlantic Richfield Co.
Post Office Box 73021
Atlanta, Georgia 30352

To Whom It May Concern:

There is documented proof that ARCO is guilty of ripping off the American public in the amount of 67.9 million dollars by purposefully and improperly computing transportation costs. ARCO obviously feels it is O.K. to discriminate against minorities and donated money it earned in illegal and inflated profits to the November, 1978 Califonia "Yes on 6" campaign against Homosexuals' rights as Human Beings.

Because of these reasons I am returning my credit cards, also cancelling my Arcotravel Club membership, as I will not do business with an unethical, 'profit at any cost' Corporation. One that also believes in oppression and intolerance.

Sincere in my feelings, I remain

Robert J. DeVeau

MGW Editor James Graham wrote the following letter to Assemblyman Stan Statham, member of the Ways and Means Committee and representative of the Redding and Chico areas.

Statham, sent the reply printed below, exactly the same reply mailed to other correspondents on this issue. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that he did not really read Graham's letter; that he has made up his mind and does not want to be bothered with facts or reason.

Assemblyman Stan Statham
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblyman Statham:

I am writing to urge you to support AB1, which will soon be before the Ways and Means Committee, of which you are a member.

As a gay Christian, I believe that this bill, which extends protection against discrimination in employment to all persons regardless of sexual orientation, deserves your support because it is not only in accord with the Constitutional principles upon which our Republic is founded, but it also is in accord with the fundamental principles of Christian love and brotherhood.

Concerning the legal requirements of the bill, it is interesting to note that it does not make the employer prove that he/she did not discriminate--it provides a means for an employee to try to redress a grievance by showing at a hearing of the Fair Employment Practice Commission that discrimination did, in fact take place, as it does all the time.

As the editor of Northern California's largest newspaper for gay women and men and their friends, with distribution in Redding and Chico as well as Sacramento, Davis and the Gold Country. I ask you to study AB1 carefully, and having done so, to support the basic rights of all citizens to earn a living by voting "yes" on AB1.

I look forward to receiving your reply and the opportunity to share your views on this important subject with our readers.

Very truly yours,
James K. Graham,
Editor

October 15, 1979
Mr. James K. Graham
P.O. Box 8170
Sacramento, CA 95818

Dear Mr. Graham:

Thank you for your recent letter supporting AB1 by assemblyman Agnos, which deals with sex discrimination.

I am opposed to this measure and am sorry that we do not agree. My main concern is that the bill places the burden of proof on the employer and not the person who brings charges. This seems very unfair to me. It goes against our entire justice system. Our country is based on the principle that a man is innocent until proven guilty.

I do appreciate your taking the time to express your views. Please continue to do so. I am sure there are many areas upon which we both agree.

Sincerely,
Stan Statham
Assemblyman

Gay Writes
To Dr. Marty Rogers

This column will attempt to address issues of significance to lesbians and gay men through exploring options. Having options releases the potential for growth. The purpose is helpful commentary rather than advice or psychotherapy.
Brief letters with questions of general interest are solicited.

Dear Marty:

Thanksgiving is coming up fast and my lover and I are already fighting about it. She's real close with her family and they have a big family dinner on holidays. I've never been invited even though they know we're "roommates." I've spent three Thanksgivings without her and I don't feel like doing it again. She tells me we're together all year long so holidays shouldn't matter that much. What can I do?

The Thanksgiving Turkey, Sacramento

Dear Thanksgiving Turkey:

Holidays, which are supposed to be so joyful and relaxing, are often a pain in the butt for gay and non-gay couples. Holidays make the partners face their allegiances and what they discover is often unsettling to themselves and their relationships. Gay couples have an additional burden. Our relationships are invisible unless we come out to our parents. Until that is done our families don't or won't recognize our emotional commitments and will relate to us on holidays as if we are single and alone. When that happens we find ourselves in a bind betwen our families and our lovers.

You can tell your lover how you feel when she leaves on holidays. Let her know about your hurt, your loneliness, and your resentments. But don't stop there. Offer her some options which help her deal with the demands of her parents. Maybe Thanksgiving with them and Christmas with you. Maybe having her ask her folks to extend a holiday dinner invitation to you. Or perhaps the two of you seizing the initiative and inviting her folks to your home for Thanksgiving. If they come, they might develop a deeper appreciation of the uniqueness of your "roommate" relationship. If they decline, your lover may feel off the hook as far as her familial obligations. There are many other workable options once the two of you agree to look for them. Compromise is the name of the game in any healthy, growing relationship.

Dear Marty:

I'm almost sure my 22-year-old brother is a closet case. When we go to the movies or to Sunrise Mall, I catch him looking at guys and he always hangs around when my gay friends are over. He's even gone to a gay bar with me and my friends. He's been dating this girl who is crazy about him and they've decided to get married next summer. I think he's being pressured into it and feel like telling her that he isn't the macho man she thinks he is. What do you think?

Harvey B., Fair Oaks

Dear Harvey:

I think you should slow down. You're getting carried away with your own fantasies about your brother and you're not checking out the reality of his situation. Talking with your brother's fiance would be a mistake. She didn't ask for your opinion and presenting it would be intrusive. It also wouldn't be well received.

If you talk with anybody, make sure it's your brother. He's the one you're concerned about and he might appreciate your views. Don't accuse him of being gay. If your hunch is correct and he does have gay feelings, he is probably having difficulty accepting them. Otherwise he would just be gay and not be getting married. If you're gay, tell him what that's like for you and how you moved through your own coming process. Introduce him to your friends, invite him to parties, and ask him to go dancing with you. Let him see what the gay world is and is not. If he insists he's not gay, let him be. You can't drag anyone out of the closet without harming him psychologically.

About those clues you're responding to: heterosexual men do check each other out. They've *just learned to be sneakier about it than many gay men care to be. It's also very possible your* brother enjoys the company of your gay friends simply because they are fun, interesting, and uninhibited. Ever think of that?

Your brother's life life is his to live as he chooses. You can't do much more than to share your perspective about him with him. Going beyond that means moving from helping him to attempting to control him.

FORUM

The Non-Sense of Separatism

by Joyce Bright

When I went to school, before pocket calculators, we were taught long division in math. For those too young to remember, division is a form of subtraction. Such division is useful for figuring the price per unit when grocery shopping.

I bring this up because, when I think of separatism, long division, subtraction, and John Donne come to mind. John Donne was the 16th Century poet who wrote: "Any mans death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for thee."

What has that to do with men and women having separate bars, parties, etc.? It seems to me that the philosophy underlining separation is that men and women are truly different, that there is a real division between us.

I readily admit that being born male or female determines, or has determined in the past, the roles we are to play when we grow up. Because of my physiology I was brought up differently from my brother. But such conditioning does not mean that fundamentally we are different. The problem is that if one buys into this myth of difference, then separatism furthers the myth.

The separatist thinks that we are in fact different. Women are castrating bitches or men are rape-power oriented. In my experience most women do not go around castrating men, and men don't go around raping women. But there is a real fear that this is what happens. It is that fear, inculcated with conditioning, that fosters separatism.

My personal opinion is that genital construction ultimately does not determine the mental acumen or spiritual integrity of a human being. True, our culture builds barriers to an experience of self that can transcend sexuality, but truly great people are people who hold their physiology in a context that rise above considerations of male and female. In fact, maleness and femaleness are descriptions rather than limitations; and most often when a person thinks he/she is experiencing his/her sexuality it is cultural conditioning that is being experienced.

The idea of separatism merely confirms such conditioning: it validates our roles. Separatism guarantees the continuation of everything Mommy and Daddy told you about the "opposite" sex, and whatever false evidence you can add to it.

The rhetoric of separatism obscures a truth modern physics (and ancient Eastern religions) now realize. The basic unit of the universe is an event, or a process. "This" and "that" are no longer separate entities: they are different forms of the same thing. Maleness and femaleness are two different forms of the same thing. Maleness and femaleness are two different forms of the same species. Because the forms look different, people think that what is beneath the forms must be different too — that physiology determines psychology. (Of course it does if that's the way you choose to experience it.) But to become involved in the new physics is to learn that "modern science classifies the world . . . not into different groups of objects but into different groups of connections."

To hold maleness or femaleness as different things is to objectify oneself. You become the object of your own existence, of the choice you make to hold yourself apart. There is nothing wrong in doing that, although in so doing you are running counter to the flow of the universe. If you experience life as a "battle of the sexes," then in all probability you have chosen a position of contradiction to the universe. You might as well try to coast up hill indefinitely. Life works much better when you work with the principles of nature, not against them.

So what is the principle of nature I am talking about? Well, there are males and there are females, and both together are what we call human beings. A human may well exist in separation, holding tenaciously to the belief that male or female is better. Yet the final logical progression of such a belief would lead to the extinction of all human life. If you divide, if you subtract, long enough, you get to zero.

The truth is men and women are more like each other than anything else in the world. Rather than fearing our differences, the particular forms of maleness and femaleness as identified in fingernails and moustaches, we now have a unique opportunity to take responsibility for our sexuality, to create a world in which men and women joyfully cooperate in liberating themselves so that ultimately we can experience the richness of each other. In full effort is full victory. Either we all make it together or none of us will.

What do you think? Write it down and send it to MGW.

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PLAYS . . .

Robert Patrick Comedies Play in S.F. through Nov. 17

"T-Shirts" and "My Cup Ranneth Over," two one-act plays by Robert Patrick, will play Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays through November 17 in the Goodman Building, located at 1115 Geary Street, at Van Ness. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. Admission is $4.50; $3.50 on Thursdays. Call 626-1921 between noon and 6 p.m. for information and reservations.

"T-Shirts" tells the story of two roomates: Marvin, a successful but sexually frustrated playwright, and Kink, a promiscuous carpenter. When Tom, a young stunner, walks in from the rain, the three men insist on being playful. "T-Shirts" is a profound and widly funny character study of three homosexuals in the cynical seventies. The production is directed by Sam Blazer and features Greg Kollenborn, David Van Pelt, and Martin Xero.

Robert Patrick says about "My Cup...": "It deals with the day a winsome be'er-do-well named Yucca becomes a big rock star (as happened to my friend Patti Smith) and how she and her roomate Pauls deal with it (badly)." It is the morning after Yucca's overnight success. "My Cup..." is directed by Lanny Bauniet and features Pricilla Huddleston and Kathleen Murphy.

The lights and environment for both plays are by John Wilson, who most recently designed the set and lights for "Suicide in B-flat" for the Magic Theatre.

MUSIC

Symphony's Opening Concert Shows Promise

Reviewed by James K. Graham

The Sacramento Symphony played splendidly for the opening program of the 1979-80 season, its first under the baton of Carter Nice as Music Director and Conductor. In three very solid works from the standard repertoire — Beethoven's **Leonore** Overture No. 3, Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 — the orchestra performed perhaps as well as I have ever heard them.

In many ways, people seem to have regarded this first program as a test for Carter Nice and the orchestra — to see if we have, in fact, got past the bitterness and upheavals of the last couple of seasons and can get on with the job of making music. Judging from the evidence, I think we have. To be sure, there are some things that need attention — the conductor's tendency to choose somewhat too urgent tempos, the still unpleasant sound of the clarinets, the apparent desire of the tympanist to drown out everyone else — but these should be ameliorated as Nice accustoms himself to the hall and to the orchestra.

The program opened with a fine performance of the **Leonore** Overture No. 3 — the third overture Beethoven wrote for his only opera, **Fidelio,** and not the one ultimately used (which is called the **Fidelio** Overture). This overture is simply too big to be used as a curtain-raiser — too dramatic and too self-contained, qualities which make it an excellent concert piece. Nice began it a bit too slowly for my taste, but on the whole it was quite good.

The young South African pianist Stephen De Groote, winner of several international competitions, was the soloist in Sergei Prokofiev's popular and effective Third Piano Concerto. De Groote, while an extremely accomplished technician, seemed rather detached from the music. This put his part of the performance quite at odds with that of the conductor and the Symphony, who were outstanding throughout, especially in the atmospheric second movement. With Prokofiev, it seems, one must be careful not to think of the music as too "modern," and therefore cold and expressionless; Prokofiev is the successor to Rachmaninoff in the Russian Romantic tradition. Though his idiom is different, his spirit is similar.

The program ended with a personal triumph for Conductor Nice: a dramatically dynamic performance of Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony. For the most part, Nice showed himself to be very sensitive to clarity and color and to building the overall shape of the work. There were also several examples of outstanding playing by individuals in the orchestra — princial oboe Neil Tatman in the second movement, the entire horn section in the treacherously exposed opening bars.

But it was in the Tchaikovsky that problems also showed up most noticeably. A number of them seemed to be balance problems that should disappear as Nice learns the hall better — the overbearing brasses, especially in the first movement, for example. As a violinist, he should be especially attentive to the Symphony's string tone — at these concerts, it had a rough edge to it; the cellos in particular sounded very "stringy."

Generally, the orchestra showed that they can do just about anything they're asked, but there are some things that should not be asked. Nice's tempo in the finale proved to be too fast for the sense of the music and the ability of the players; at times, it degenerated into a scramble. "Con fuoco," as the score is marked, means "with fire," but that refers to spirit, not just to speed.

But these are minor complaints. It was a very enjoyable concert, and a very promising one. The Symphony's next program, played on Saturday, November 3, at 8:30 p.m., Sunday, November 4, at 3 p.m., and Monday, November 5, at 7:30 p.m., will feature cellist Gilberto Munguia as soloist in Elgar's Cello Concerto. Carter Nice will also lead the Sacramento Symphony in Rossini's Overture to **The Barber of Seville** and Sibelius's Symphony No. 2. Information and tickets are available from the Symphony office, 451 Parkfair Drive, Suite 11, Sacramento 95825; phone 448-0800.

Chamber Concert

The Sacramento Symphony will present a new Friday evening chamber series of four concerts for the 1979-1980 season. The Sacramento Symphony Chamber Players, a group of 35 musicians from the Symphony will be conducted by Carter Nice, Music Director and Conductor of the Sacramento Symphony.

The first program in the Chamber Players Series takes place November 9 in Fremont Presbyterian Church. Featured will be Bach's **Concerto for Violin and Oboe and Orchestra, C Minor,** played by Theodore Madsen, Concertmaster of the Sacramento Symphony and oboist Neil Tatman. Also programmed are Mozart's **Divertimento in D Major** and twentieth century compositions **Danses Concertantes** by Stravinsky and **Concerto Grosso #1, for String Orchestra and Piano Obligatto** by Bloch.

Handel's **Messiah** is scheduled as the second concert in the series on December 21 in the Community Center Theater. Soloists for this performance of the monumental choral drama are Kaaren Herr-Erikson, soprano; Mary Triest, mezzo soprano; Dale Richard, tenor; and William Courtney, bass. Also singing will be the Masterworks Chorus of the Sacramento Chorale, directed by James Mitchell. Sponsor for this chamber concert is Allen Transportation.

The third concert in the series occurs February 15 on the program for that evening are Handel's **Water Music Suite,** Haydn's **Symphony #7, "Le Midi,"** Telemann's **Overture, Air and Conclusion D,** and Respighi's **Antiche Danze et Arie Suite.**

The fourth and final concert is scheduled for March 28. the all-Bach program features the **Brandenburg Concerto #5 in D Major,** the **Suite #2 in B Minor,** and the **Cantata #51, Jauchzet Gott."**

The first, third and fourth concerts in the Chamber Players Series will be held in Fremont Presbyterian Church, 5770 Carlson Drive. Concert time for all performances is 8 p.m.

Tickets are $16. Tickets may be ordered by phone (916) 488-0800 or mail from the Sacramento Symphony Office, 451 Parkfair Drive, Sacramento, CA. 95825. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

Gay Chorus Organized

With a turnout so far of about 30 women and men, the Sacramento gay chorus is underway. Rehearsals have begun on a Christmas program which includes a repertoire of classical and folk holiday music sung in four-part harmony. The chorus will likely do one or two performances during the holiday season.

Rehearsals are weekly on Sunday nights at 7. Women who sing in higher ranges are especially urged to come and sing, as the chorus could benefit from more soprano voices, although in just a short time the group has developed a full sound under the very able direction of a well-known area music director.

It's not too late to get involved in rehearsals for the Christmas season. If interested, for the location of practices and more details, call either Greg Gorges at 457-6840 or Norv Giles in Davis at 758-2110 during the day, or 756-8120 evenings.

Anglican Study Favors Homosexual Priests

The Church of England has produced a report saying that homosexual relationships can be justified and recommending that homosexuals not be barred from the priesthood.

Two bishops involved in preparing the report clashed over its findings. The church's Board of Social Responsibility, which ordered the inquiry, said it was "deeply divided" about the result.

Rev. Graham Leonard, Bishop of Truro and chairman of the board, wrote in a foreword that his members have "not adopted or endorsed the contents" of the report. He also said the report "can make an important contribution to forming the mind of the church." The weight of Christian teaching is against all homosexual acts, he added.

Bishops should not refuse to ordain a man into the clergy merely because he is a homosexual, the report said. It also proposed that the homosexual age of consent in England be reduced from 21 to 18.

Barn Dance to Benefit Joan Reiss Campaign

On Saturday, November 2, the public is invited to a novel benefit for the Joan Reiss for Assembly campaign, "The World's First Country Club Barn Dance," to be held at 8 p.m. at the Arden Hills Swim and Tennis Club at 1315 Mission Avenue in Carmichael.

Plenty of lively bluegrass, country, and rock music for dancing, scrumptious snacks will be featured.

Western attire will be right in style that night, of course, and a donation of $10 per person will get you in the door.

Reiss supporters are already unoficially off to an early start. Joan Reiss is expected to formally announce her candidacy for the 6th Assembly District seat currently held by Leroy Greene sometime later in November. Reiss ran against Greene in 1978, and came within a whisker of unseating the 18-year incumbent in that race.

For ticket information, call 485-8705.

Speakers Bureau Adopts Bylaws

With the passing of summer and the rush of fall activities, some of you may have forgotten about the Sacramento Gay Speakers Bureau. We are still here and we definitely need speakers for upcoming speaking engagements. Remember, if we want to eliminate gay oppression, we have to educate the public; and that requires informed speakers.

On October 10 the Speakers Bureau met and adopted a set of bylaws which will serve as guidelines for all future Bureau operations.

The first training workshop for 1980 will probably be held in January. The workshop will be open to both new and experience speakers.

The next meeting of the Sacramento Gay Speakers Bureau will be Wednesday, October 24, at 7:30 p.m. at William Land Elementary School, 2021 12th Street. This meeting will be for the purpose of electing officers to the board of directors. This is your opportunity to elect people who will represent you. Add your voice to the multitude — come out and orate!

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Thanks!
James K. Graham, Editor

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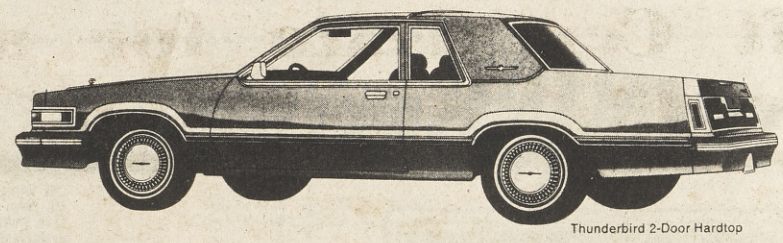

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NOVEMBER

1-3 THU, 8-10 FRI, 15-17 SAT Theatre Rhinoceros presents "T-Shirts" and "My Cup Runneth Over," two one-act comedies by Robert Patrick. 8:30 p.m., Goodman Bldg., 1115 Geary at Van Ness, S.F. (415) 626-1921 noon to 6 for reservations. Playing Thu., Fri., Sat.

2—SAT Joan Reiss Campaign Benefit. Country Club Barn Dance. Arden Hills Swim and Tennis Club, 1315 Mission Ave., Carmichael. 8 p.m. $10 donation. 485-8705 for information.

3—SAT Meg Christian in Concert. Hiram Johnson High School, 6879 14th Ave. Tickets $4-$6

4—SUN Sacramento Valley Bay Speakers Bureau needs input of mental health professionals and other interested people. 7:30 p.m. at 653 El Dorado Way. Call Dan Rudd at 457-6840 or 452-8933.

6—TUE SCC GPU Reg. Mtg., Rm. MN221, noon.

8—THU RCBA Meeting. Whistle Stop, Old Town, 7:30 p.m. Program: Meet Mayor Phil Isenberg. Call Norv Giles, 756-2110.

9—FRI Sacramento Symphony Chambers Players conducted by Carter Nice. Works by Bach, Mozart, Stravinsky, and Bloch. Fremont Presbyterian Church, 5770 Carlson Dr., 8 p.m. 488-0800 for tickets.

9—FRI Gay/Lesbian Potluck in Davis at 7:30 p.m. Call 753-2090 for location.

12—MON CHRA Sac. Chapter meeting. Joan Reiss to speak on how and why gays should support her. 7 p.m. at the Incredible Edible, N St. and Alhambra. 448-6666 for info.

13—TUE SCC GPU Reg. Mtg., Rm. MN221, noon

14—WED Sacramento Gay Speakers Bureau meeting. 7:30 p.m., William Land Elementary School, 2120 12th St., Sac. 446-7241

15—THU Third Thurs. Rap. SCC GPU Open Mtg. Call 453-0823 or 756-3435 for location.

17—SAT Interface Gay Radio features a press conference with Gay Atheist League of America. KXPR, 88.9 FM, 6 p.m.

17—SAT Gay and Lesbian Student Coalition Meeting. All Northern and Central California universities and colleges invited. 1 p.m. 433 Russel Blvd., Davis. RSVP, 753-2090.

17—SAT Gay/Bi/Straight Dance 9:30-1:30 a.m. Rec Pool Lodge, U.C. Davis. 753-2090 for for more information.

18—SUN Thanksgiving at MCC, a day of festivities beginning with special worship service at 11 a.m. Rev. Freda Smith preaching. All invited. 2741 34th St. 451-5552.

20—TUE SCC GPU Reg. Mtg., Rm. MN221, noon

23—FRI G/Lesbian Potluck in Davis at 7:30. Call 753-2090 for location.

27—TUE SCC GPU Reg. Mtg. Rm. MN221, noon

30—FRI Lady Garnet Presents free bus tour of Sacramento's gay bars. Departs Hotel El Rancho at 8 p.m.

30—FRI Gay Judge Steve Lachs fundraiser for CHRA at The Lobby Restaurant. 11th = L St. 5:30-8 p.m. $10. 448-6666

DECEMBER

1—SAT **MOM . . . GUESS WHAT!** Birthday Celebration. Don't miss it! Dinner/Disco party. The Victorian. H & 9th 456-5858

1—SAT Lady Garnet Presents First Annual Masque Ball. "Cinderella and Prince Charming." Costume competition, prizes, disco. Center Court Ballroom, Hotel El Rancho, 1029 W. Capitol Ave., West Sac. 8 p.m. $5 in advance.

2—SUN Lady Garnet Presents Masque Ball Awards Brunch. Hotel El Rancho. 11 a.m.

2—SUN Lighting of the Advent Wreath at MCC. Sermon will tell the Christmas story. Everyone welcome. 2741 34th St. 451-5552

8—SAT Developing Personal Power for Women Workshop. 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. $25. Call Dr. Maria Nemeth for reservations 393-3136.

8—SAT Christmas Knights '79. Third annual Christmas benefit show for George Sand Community Benefit. Prizes, dancing, show, no-host bar. Tuesday Club, 2722 L St. 8 p.m. $4 in advance or $7 at door. 371-3758 or 486-8176.

9—SUN Basket Sunday at MCC. Bring food and toys to provide a merry Christmas for disadvantaged members of community. 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. service. 2741 34th St. 451-5552.

14—WED Sacramento Gay Speakers Bureau meeting. 7:30 p.m. William Land Elementary School, 2120 12th St., Sac. 446-7241.

ONGOING DATES

- **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**
  4th Wed. 7 pm. City Hall
- **C.H.R.A. (Gay Lobby)**
  2nd Monday 448-6666
- **N.O.W.**
  3rd Wednesday. 7:00 YWCA
- **GAY ROLLER SKATING**
  Thursday 8:00 pm Roller Odyssey Fair Oaks Blvd.
- **CSUS GAY PEOPLES UNION**
  Every Thursday. 7 pm. Miwok Rm. 3rd Floor. Student Union.
- **TUES. GAY RAP GROUP**
  Every Tues. 7 pm. 2741 34th St. 451-5552
- **CSUS BI-SUPPORT**
  Every Wed. Noon til 2 pm. 454-6817
- **GAY ALCOHOLICS ANON.**
  MCC 2741 34th St. Mon., Wed., Fri., 8 pm.
- **INTERFACE (Gay Radio)**
  Saturdays 6 pm - 7 pm News. Interviews. Music KXPR 88.9 FM
- **ARC GAY PEOPLES UNION**
  Every Wed. Noon til 1 p.m. Davis Hall 207.
- **MOM . . . GUESS WHAT! STAFF MEETING.**
  Every Monday evening. Call if interested.
- **GEORGE SAND**
  1st Tues. 7:30 pm. at the Del Prado Restaurant. 1403 I St.
- **DIGNITY/Sacramento**
  2nd Sunday each month—3 pm. Mass & Meeting. St. Francis Chapel 26th & K 448-3777.
- **SCC GAY PEOPLES UNION**
  Every Tues. Reg. Mt. Noon, Room MN221. 3rd Thurs. open mtg. 453-0823, 756-3435.
- **LESBIANS OVER 35**
  Potluck. 3rd Saturday, 7 pm. 371-3496 or 756-7213 for location/info.
- **GAY ACADEMIC UNION. BAY AREA CHAPTER**
  2nd Sunday each month. 2:00 p.m. at Western Addition Library. Geary and Scott. S.F. 362-8283.
- **RIVER CITY BUSINESS ASSN.**
  2nd Thurs. 7:30 at the Whistle Stop Restaurant. Call for Bd. meeting date. 456-5858.
- **MCC CHURCH WORSHIP**
  Services. Sun 11 a.m. & 7:15 p.m. Wed. 7:15 p.m. 2741 34th St. 451-5552.
- **G.N.I.E.**
  First Monday 8 p.m.
- **BI-SUPPORT GROUP**
  Miwork Rm. CSUS. University Union. Noon-2 p.m. Tuesdays. "If you feel like you're in between."
- **GAY/LESBIAN COMING OUT GROUP—DAVIS**
  Every Mon. 7:30 p.m. Starts Oct. 15 753-2090 for location.
- **LESBIAN SHARING GROUP — DAVIS**
  Every Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Starts Oct. 11 753-2090 for location.

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- HIDE & SEEK .. 825 Sunset Ave., Bryte
- THE CRESENT MOON . 1704 Broadway
- CHRA ..... 1107 9th St.
- FRANK'S UNDERPASS 1946 Broadway
- MCC CHURCH ..... 2741 34th St.
- THE HUT ..... 2700 W. Capitol
- UPSTAIRS/DOWNSTAIRS . 1225 K St.
- CLUB BATHS ..... 1537 Sacramento
- STEAM WORKS ..... 2551 5th St.
- THE PARKING LOT 2804 Auburn Blvd.
- TOPPER ..... K St. Mall
- TOWER BOOKS ..... Broadway
- YWCA ..... 17th & L
- PAVA'S ..... 24th & K St.
- INCREDIBLE EDIBLE ..... N St. & Alhambra
- THE WAY STATION ..... 1403 I St.
- SHOWCASE THEATER ..... L & 4th
- TOWER THEATRES ..... Broadway
- SCC WOMEN'S CENTER Freeport Blvd.

DAVIS

- COFFEE HOUSE ..... (On Campus)
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- ORPHEUS BOOKS ..... 302 E. St.
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- NATURAL FOODS WORKS .. 206 G St.
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- LISA TODD ..... 1057 E. 8th St.

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- **G.N.I.E.**
  Box 15731
  Sac., Ca. 95813
- **SACRAMENTO GAY SPEAKERS BUREAU**
  1403 I St., Sac. 95814. 446-7241
- **CALIFORNIA HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES—GAY LOBBYIST**
  1107 9th Rm. 1019 Sac., Ca. 95814 448-6666.
- **DIGNITY**
  Box 161765, Sac. 448-3777
- **METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**
  2741 34th St., Sac. 451-5552
- **THE WAY STATION**
  1403 I St. Sac. 447-1171
- **GAY PEOPLE'S UNION. CSUS**
  6000 J St., Sac. 454-6595
- **TUES. GAY RAP GROUP**
  2741 34th St. 451-5552
- **VALLEY KNIGHTS MOTORCYCLE CLUB**
  Box 8163 Sac. 95818
- **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**
  1401 21 St. #203. Sac. 444-6903
- **SACRAMENTO WOMEN'S CENTER and RAPE CRISIS CENTER WOMEN'S INFOR. SERVICE**
  2104 Capitol Ave. 441-2075
- **FRIENDS COMM. ON LEGISLATION**
  1107 9th St. #1015 Sac. 443-3734
- **LESBIANS OVER 35**
  Joy or Dean 371-3496, 756-7213
- **DAVIS GAY STUDENTS UNION**
  433 Russell Blvd. 753-2090
- **CAMPING WOMEN**
  2770 Armstrong Dr. Sac. 95825 488-1297
- **NAT'L ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN**
  Box 1404, Sac. 3rd Wed 7:00 YWCA 443-3470
- **CSUS WOMEN'S CENTER**
  TJJ-5 454-6817
- **GEORGE SAND COMMUNITY**
  Benefit Fund Box 1392 N. Highlands 95660.
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  GPU - CSUS 6000 J St. 95819 454-6817 454-6191
- **LADY GARNET PRESENTS**
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- **MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .!**
  Sacramento's Gay Newspaper. Box 8170. Sacto. 95818. 456-5858.
- **ADVOCATES FOR GAY STATE EMPLOYEES**
  Box 161866. Sac. 95816
- **SCC GAY PEOPLE'S UNION**
  453-0823, 756-3435

- **Meet the first Openly Gay Superior Court Judge - Steve Lachs at THE LOBBY here in Sacramento November 30 at 5:30 p.m., Call 448-6666 for more information.**

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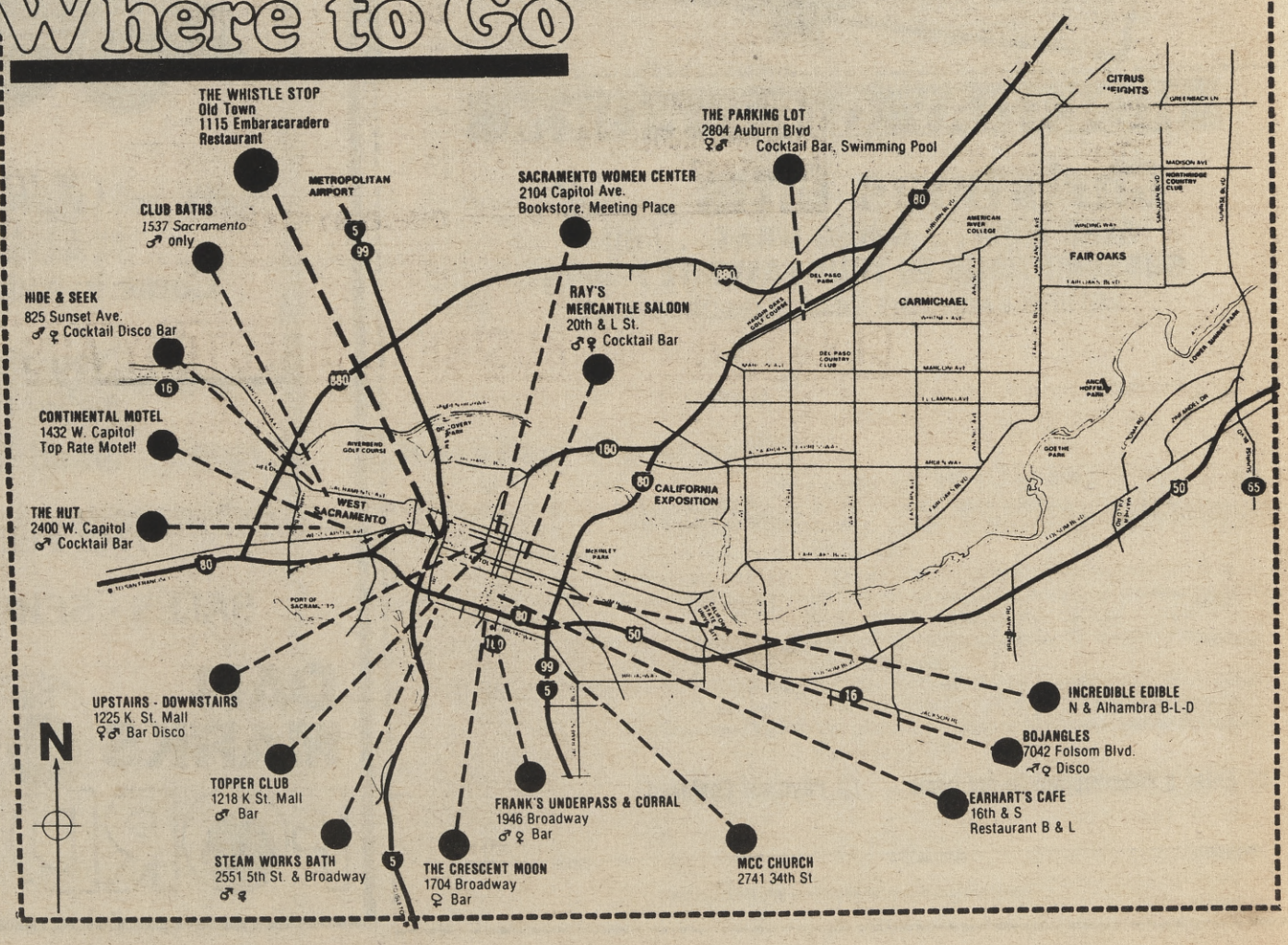

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VOLUNTEERS Wanted for the Davis Gay Task Force. Staffing Office. Publicity Work, etc. Call D.G.T.F. at 753-2090.

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6

DEADLINE:
★20th OF THE MONTH

MAIL EARLY TO:☆
MOM . . . GUESS WHAT . . .!
Box 8170
Sacramento, CA 95818

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

HEADING _____

☐ CLASSIFIED: # of consecutive issues _____ X _____ lines ($1/line) =$_____

☐ BUSINESS DIRECTORY: # of consecutive issues _____ X ($5/month) = $_____
2 lines only.
☐ On approved credit [after initial payment] bill me for ongoing insertions.

☐ Check enclosed. Ads must be paid in advance.

Rumor Has It...

That Something Is Coming To Sacramento...